

A Personal Look At The Life Of The New Executive Secretary

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

He cannot remember the time when he did not feel that God wanted him to be a minister.

He grew up in an old country church in Mississippi — and strange as it may seem, the same church that nurtured the first executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

His interest in the work of Mississippi Baptists has always been great — so great, in fact, that he chose to write his doctoral dissertation on the subject, "The History of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, From Its Conception to 1900."

During the past twenty years as pastor in Mississippi, he has been a key participant in state Baptist affairs. From 1969 to 1973, he was chairman of the Convention Board's Executive Committee.

He is the man whom Dr. Chester Quarles predicted some years ago would one day be executive secretary.

Mississippi Baptists, you have a new leader. Dr. Earl Kelly was inaugurated Tuesday evening, November 12, as the ninth executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

tary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Many of you know him already. Others of you will be meeting him and hearing him speak, perhaps at your church, or at some conference or convention. It seems clearly evident that he long had been destined to assume this role. Throughout his life God has been preparing him to serve you.

Ernest Earl Kelly, Jr. was ordained to preach in 1941 at Cherry Creek

Church in Pontotoc County. While a student at Sunflower Junior College he had made public his decision to enter the ministry, though he had always known deep within that he would be a preacher. Ordained at the same service was Henry West, Jr., son of the Cherry Creek pastor. (Rev. Henry West, Jr., now pastor of First Church, Covington, Tennessee, was present last week at Dr. Kelly's inauguration.)

Seventy-four years earlier, in November, 1867, Cherry Creek had ordained J. B. Gambrell, who became

the first executive secretary, after the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board was organized in 1885. He

was also first editor of the Baptist Record. Also Cherry Creek was (Continued on page 3)

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Convention Has Constructive, Harmonious 138th Session

The Mississippi Baptist Convention, in a historic 138th session in Jackson Nov. 13-15, witnessed a change in the leadership of its Convention Board, adopted a record high Cooperative Program budget of \$5,500,000 for 1974, and heard an encouraging report from its "Restore Gulfshore" Committee.

On Tuesday night, a special program was held, titled "Spotlighting the Executive Secretary," in which several Southern Baptist and state leaders paid tribute to the retiring executive secretary-treasurer, Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, followed by an appropriate service in which Dr. Earl Kelly was inaugurated as the new executive secretary-treasurer.

Dr. Hudgins, in addition to many tributes, was made executive secretary-treasurer emeritus of the Convention Board.

He also received a pension for life, a book of letters, written by many friends, and a monetary gift from friends over the state.

The Convention Board also presented him with the automobile that he has used for his travel for the Board.

Dr. Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, presented him with a plaque in appreciation for his services as a Southern Baptist.

Dr. Kelly and Dr. Hudgins were honored in a reception held at the Baptist Building following the service at the church.

A report of the "Restore Gulfshore" Campaign Committee, presented by Dr. David Grant, Jackson, chairman, revealed that an estimated \$800,000 has been pledged by the churches of the state toward the current drive to raise \$1,250,000, to be added to other funds on hand, toward the rebuilding of Gulfshore Assembly, practically destroyed by Hurricane Camille in 1969.

Dr. Grant said that the \$800,000 did not include any funds given by individuals through the Individual Gifts to Committee.

Dr. Grant was re-elected as convention president, for a second term, following a custom the convention has observed for several years of re-electing its presidents for endorsement terms.

Rev. James Richardson, Leland, was elected first vice-president, with Dr. Harold Bryson, Carthage, named as second vice-president.

Horace Kerr, Jackson, was re-elected as recording secretary, with Claude Anthony of Jackson named as associate recording secretary.

The convention voted to meet at the First Baptist Church in Jackson for its 1974 session, the dates to be Nov. 12-14.

Dr. Robert L. Hamblin, of Tupelo was selected to preach the convention sermon, with Rev. Charles Gentry, Clinton, to be alternate.

The convention came to an encouraging close on Thursday night in the Mississippi Coliseum with Dr. Baker James Cauthen, of Richmond, Va., executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, as the principal speaker.

The program emphasized missions, with 169 young people coming to the front at the closing commitment service, indicating either profession of faith, Christian life, vocational or rededication.

An estimated attendance of over 10,000 young people, coming from every section of the state, completely filled the Coliseum.

There were several highlights during the service, one being special music by the Sanctuary Choir and Revelation from the First Baptist Church of Jackson under direction of Larry Black, minister of music of the church.

Earlier during the convention, the body voted, upon recommendation of the Convention Board, to cease to sponsor this annual youth night service in the Coliseum, effective in 1974.

Among the reasons given for this action was that this service is largely a duplication of the annual State Youth Convention held each year during the Christmas holidays in Jackson's Municipal Auditorium.

The Convention adopted the report of its Resolutions Committee, which included several strong resolutions that had been presented by messengers earlier in the session.

One resolution was against "moral pollution," in which the convention took a strong stand against "pornography, sexual obscenity and violence as it is portrayed through movies, television, music lyrics, magazines,

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Dr. Kelly Is Inaugurated As Convention Executive

Dr. Earl Kelly, pastor of the Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Jackson the past six years, is the new executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, having been inaugurated in an impressive service at the close of the Tuesday night session of the State Convention last week.

The service was appropriately held following another in which the retiring executive secretary-treasurer, Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, was fittingly honored.

Dr. Robert L. Hamblin, Tupelo, president of the Convention Board, presided over the program and called Dr. Kelly to the platform.

Dr. Hamblin briefly told of the events leading up to Dr. Kelly's election as executive secretary-treasurer, and then with Dr. Kelly kneeling, Dr. Hudgins was asked to lay his hands on Dr. Kelly's head and with the audience standing, lead the prayer of inauguration.

Thus the mantle of leadership of the Convention Board changed hands and, according to prior action of the

Convention Board, Dr. Kelly officially became the body's new executive.

The Convention Board, in previous action, recognizing that Dr. Hudgins was nearing mandatory retirement age, named its Executive Committee as a nominating committee to recommend to the Board a successor to Dr. Hudgins.

The Committee considered numerous candidates, but finally Dr. Kelly, the Committee's chairman, was excused from a meeting of the group and the remainder of the Committee unanimously and enthusiastically, recommended his election, which the Board readily approved.

The report of the Executive Committee was made by Glenn Perry, Philadelphia, vice-chairman of the Executive Committee, who said that while Dr. Kelly was chairman of the committee, the group was submitting the name of Dr. Kelly over his objections because "it felt that Dr. Kelly was, because of training, experience, knowledge of the work and commitment, the best qualified person for the position."

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Graham Says He Cannot Slow Down In Activities

ST LOUIS, Missouri — At the conclusion of the St. Louis Crusade Billy Graham, scratching his head thoughtfully, said, "With spiritual hunger like this I cannot slow down in my evangelistic activities."

He had just finished preaching to the largest crowds ever to gather in St. Louis for religious services. The St. Louis Arena which is larger than Madison Square Garden was packed to overflowing at every service. Crusade officials had to turn down additional thousands of requests for tickets. Dr. Graham said, "There is a spiritual hunger here that we had not anticipated."

In reply to a question he said, "Yes, I think Watergate, the energy crisis, the tensions in the Middle East have all added to the uncertainty of people. They are searching for something to hold on to. I have never seen audiences so attentive, so hungry and so responsive."

The Roman Catholic church gave support. The Catholic archdiocesan newspaper THE ST. LOUIS REVIEW says, "Nothing but good can come from one of his famous Crusades. We express our appreciation to those who brought Dr. Graham to St. Louis and we pray that God will use him as an instrument to call many St. Louisans to an awareness of the gospel message and its relevance for their lives."

Most of the Missouri Synod Lutheran churches supported the Crusade. None opposed it.

The black participation was the largest that the Graham Crusades have had this year. Almost all black churches in the St. Louis area enthusiastically supported the Crusade. A

dozen or more black clergy were visible on the platform each evening. Hundreds of black people responded to the appeal to receive Christ during the week.

Dr. I. C. Peay, Sr., pastor of the Galilee Baptist Church, said, "The Crusade is the greatest event ever to come to St. Louis. The whole metropolitan area will be helped as a result of the great fellowship with the Billy Graham Team and Dr. Graham."

Other clergy throughout the city were equally enthusiastic. Dr. Lester Harnish former president of the

(Continued On Page 2)

Broadman Releases Revised Volume I Of Commentary

NASHVILLE (BP) — The final volume of the 12-volume set of the Broadman Bible Commentary, a revision of Volume I, has been released by Broadman Press through Baptist and general book stores throughout the country.

This revision was published in response to actions of the 1970 and 1971 Southern Baptist Convention messengers as these actions were interpreted by the elected trustees of the Sunday School Board and implemented by the administrative officers of the board.

The 1970 action called for rewriting (Continued on page 2)

Oates, Four Others Now At Southeastern

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) — Five men, including Wayne E. Oates of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, have joined the faculty and staff of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Besides Oates, current professor of the psychology of religion at Southern Seminary, they are Robert L. Richardson Jr., who will serve in three capacities; J. Colin Harris, assistant professor of Christian education; Dwight L. Baker, furloughing Southern Baptist foreign missionary, visiting professor of missions and history; and David W. Lee, superintendent of building and grounds.

Oates will join the Southeastern faculty in August, 1974, as Distinguished Professor of Psychology of Religion and Pastoral Counseling.

Author of 21 books in the field of pastoral care, Oates, a native South Carolinian, has served as an instructor at Wake Forest College and visiting professor of pastoral counseling at Union Theological Seminary, New York, and Princeton (N. J.) Theological Seminary.

He has also served as a pastor, religious counselor, and chaplain and theological consultant for hospitals and a clinic.

Richardson, current assistant professor of religion at Atlanta Christian College, will serve as associate director of field education, assistant professor of field education and director of advanced professional studies at Southeastern Seminary.

A native of Stuart, Va., he is former director of religious activities and associate professor of religion at Belmont College, Nashville, and has done pastoral work in Virginia.

Harris, a native of Decatur, Ga., comes from Meredith College, Raleigh, N. C., where he has served as a member of the instructional staff (Continued on page 2)



Earl Kelly --- New Convention Leader

An Editorial

Mississippi Baptists join hands in welcoming a new leader, Dr. Ernest Earl Kelly.

On Tuesday evening, November 13, at the Mississippi Baptist Convention in session in Jackson, Dr. Kelly became the ninth Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The first Secretary was Dr. J. B. Gambrell, who became secretary when the first convention board was formed in 1885. In the earlier years of the convention's life there had been no full time leader.

An interesting note in passing is that both Dr. Gambrell and Dr. Kelly came from the same church, Cherry Creek in Pontotoc County.

Dr. Kelly comes to his position of leadership, at what must be evaluated as a propitious time in Mississippi Baptist history. Any careful student of the situation in Baptist affairs in the state, must recognize that seldom, if ever, has been a time more favorable for enlargement, for advance, and for expansion of Mississippi Baptist work. The next few years should see the greatest developments the convention has known in its history.

The reasons for this are evident everywhere. The general economy of the state is in a period of expansion. The population is growing, new industry is coming in, and prosperity is evident on every hand.

The spiritual situation in Mississippi is just as promising, especially for Baptists. Strong leadership has brought the convention to what may be its finest hours. The unity and fellowship never has been better. Churches are being blessed of the Lord, and marked growth is found in many places. A spirit of cooperation prevails, support of the convention program never has been larger, and the institutions and agencies all are in splendid condition. Moreover, the opportunity for growth probably never has been better, and the situation offers a challenge, which the convention and the churches are striving to meet.

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Dr. and Mrs. Hudgins Honored in 'City' Event

U. S. District Judge James P. Coleman, of Ackerman, the principal speaker at a banquet Tuesday night honoring Dr. and Mrs. W. Douglas Hudgins, declared that "the first time I saw him I said to myself, 'this is an extraordinary man'."

The speaker was referring to Dr. Hudgins, who, along with Mrs. Hudgins, was being jointly honored by the First Baptist Church and the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The banquet was held in the Convention Center dining hall at Primos Northgate in Jackson with several hundred people in attendance.

Judge Coleman, himself a Baptist, continued by saying "His great ability was written all over him, but it puffed him up not in the slightest. He had an air of democracy about him and made no effort to set himself apart from other men."

The noted speaker began his message by telling of the many and notable accomplishments of George Washington and then adding that several congressmen voted "no" when a resolution was offered in Congress to thank him for his services.

Judge Coleman quickly added, however that "tonight we are here for the purpose of publicly expressing, for all the world to know, our high admiration, our deep respect, and our sincere gratitude for the life and services of a man who has proven by word and deed that 'Lives of great men all remind us, We can make our lives sublime'."

Continuing, Judge Coleman said: "We Mississippians give thanks tonight that almost half of his life has been spent in our midst. We have been the beneficiaries of those years. We know it."

"How, now, may we build upon his example?"

"Regardless of the condition of the stock market or of the winds which continually blow in Washington or elsewhere, I want to point you to one rock which stands today without a single scratch upon its surface."

"I refer to the freedom of religion

guaranteed by our forefathers when they authored the very first amendment to the Constitution of the United States (Continued On Page 2)



Convention Officers Elected

New officers of the State Convention for the coming year, elected at last week's session, are, seated, Dr. David Grant, Jackson, president, re-elected; standing, from left: Rev. James Richardson, Leland, first vice-president; Dr. Harold Bryson, Carthage, second vice-president, and Horace Kerr, Jackson, recording secretary. Not shown is Claude Anthony, Jackson, associate recording secretary.

Home Mission Board Names Five New Mission Personnel

ATLANTA, Ga. (BP) — The board of directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board appointed one new missionary and four missionary associates.

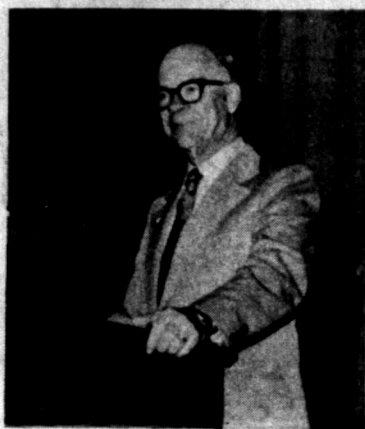
Most of the appointments, announced at the board meeting here, were made in cooperation with the state Baptist conventions where the workers were assigned.

Colleen Colton was appointed as a missionary by the board's Christian social ministries department to serve in Roanoke, Va., as director of the Baptist Center. Miss Colton is a graduate of North Texas State University, Denton, Tex., and holds a master of religious education degree from Southern Baptist Theological (Continued On Page 2)

Convention Personalities



Clark McMurray, Pascagoula, Convention Sermon preacher



Owen Cooper, president, SBC



Jerry Clower, Yazoo City, entertainer



Dwight L. Baker, missionary to Israel



James Sullivan, executive secretary, BSSB



Landrum Leavell, pastor, Wichita Falls, Texas



Donald Ackland, Nashville, Bible study leader



Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary, FMB

Convention Is Constructive, Harmonious

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paper backs and newspapers."

The convention struck out hard against gambling in one resolution, because of the reported effort in the state to legalize horse racing. The resolution stated that "we encourage our people to oppose any movement in our state toward the legalization of any gambling, including parimutuel betting on horse or dog racing."

The Convention adopted a resolution concerning "the prayer amendment," in which it opposed any efforts to tamper with the First Amendment to the Constitution.

The body adopted a resolution concerning "privileged communication," in which it urged the legal right of privileged communication between the clergyman and those seeking his counsel.

One resolution adopted sought legislation "making possible a uniform day of rest."

Resolutions presented asking that the Camp Kittiwake property on the Gulf Coast "be designated for an apartment complex for disabled and retired Baptists" was referred to the Convention Board for study with a report to be made back to the convention.

Three resolutions adopted were originated by the Resolutions Committee. One thanked the host First Baptist Church for its hospitality, one resolved that "we renew our thanks to Almighty God for His abundant mercy and grace," and "that we pledge to Dr. Earl Kelly, our confidence, prayers and support," and the third paid tribute to the leadership of Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, and expressed happiness that he will continue to live among Mississippi Baptists and serve as executive-secretary-emeritus.

The Convention adopted a strong statement from the Convention Board which opposes the use of any direct governmental aid for the support of private religious educational institutions, and expressed opposition to legislation which permits the use of public tax funds, state or federal, for the direct support of parochial education at any level.

The convention approved a strong report from its Christian Action Commission, which Dr. J. Clark Hensley, executive director, observed with a statement that "This is the era of the handwriting on the Wall." The report continued, in part:

"Political corruption has been winked at so long in the national, state and local arenas that Watergate becomes both a symbol and a signal that a nation can veer so far from the path of justice and decency that honesty, integrity and character are empty words."

In an addendum to the report, on the subject of drunken driving, alcohol and other drug abuse, the report "encouraged passage of legislation, national and state, to label alcoholic beverages, including beer, with a warning as to health hazards and to remove alcohol advertising from radio, television and newspapers."

The Convention voted to approve a statewide capital needs campaign for Clarke College and that the year 1975 be designated as the time.

The Convention adopted a recommendation of the Convention Board that a committee be appointed to study the feasibility of reassigning the work of the Board of Ministerial Edu-

the Convention Board from the Education Commission.

The convention adopted the report of its committee on constitution and by-laws. Two proposed amendments were adopted, on first reading, as follows:

1. That, in line 7, Section 2, Article I of The Plan of Organization and Action, between the words "shall" and "be", the words "where feasible" be inserted so that the sentence will read, "Not more than four members from any one association may serve on the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and when a pastor or a layman is already serving, a layman or pastor respectively shall, where feasible, be nominated by the Committee on Nominations."

2. That, in line 3, Section 4, Article XIII of The Plan of Organization and Action, the words "nor any Associational Superintendent of Missions" be deleted, and at the conclusion of the paragraph this sentence be added: "However, Associational Superintendents of Missions shall be eligible for membership on any Board or Commission of the Convention, with the exception of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board."

The convention also adopted two other changes, which were approved on first reading, in 1972, as follows:

1. Article IX, Section 1, line 8, after "W.M.U. Convention President," add "and the President of the Board of Ministerial Education." And, the last line of this same section shall read "This Commission shall function as an advisory body, making its reports and recommendations first to the Convention Board and then to the Convention."

2. That a Section IV be added under Article X to read as follows: "The Ministerial Board shall have authority to borrow funds for the provision of additional housing facilities for ministerial students, provided such transaction meet the stipulations of Article XVI and Article XVII, Section 3, of the Plan of Organization and Action. The Ministerial Board will work in cooperation with the Education Commission as provided in Article IX of

education. The recommendation came to the Plan of Organization and Action."

(Constitutional changes on amendments must be read and approved at one session and thus adopted again the following year, to become a part of the Constitution).

The president appointed the Com-

National Missions Prayer Breakfast Set By Laymen

DALLAS (BP)—A national prayer breakfast for Southern Baptist foreign missions will be held Nov. 30 in the ballroom of the Statler Hilton Hotel here. About 3,000 laymen and their pastors from churches west of the Mississippi River have been invited to attend.

Extending the invitation were Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., president of the Southern Baptist Convention; Baker James Cauthen of Richmond, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board; and Glendon McCullough of Memphis, executive director of the Brotherhood Commission, who is spearheading the effort.

The breakfast, which officially kicks off the week of prayer for foreign missions, will feature a visual presentation of Baptist mission efforts in 77 countries around the world. Cauthen, who has just completed 20 years as chief administrative officer of the mission board, will address the men.

Special guests at the breakfast will include state Brotherhood directors, state Baptist editors, state Baptist convention presidents and executive secretaries from states west of the Mississippi River. The Dallas breakfast is the second McCullough has guided in eight months. A similar breakfast, emphasizing home missions, drew 1,000 laymen and pastors to Atlanta in March.

mittee on Committees for 1974, as follows:

Rev. James Hurt, Cleveland, chairman; Rev. Gowan Ellis, Noxapater; Rev. Luther Litchfield, Columbus; Rev. Charles Gentry, Clinton, and Walter Caughman, Jackson.

Broadman Commentary

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of Volume I "with due consideration of the conservative viewpoint." The following year, convention messengers asked the board to "obtain another writer" to rewrite the volume.

Clyde T. Francisco, professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, was enlisted to replace British Baptist scholar G. Henton Davies as writer of a new commentary on the book of Genesis for Volume I.

Barclay M. Newman, Jr., a translator for the American Bible Society, was invited to write a new article on "The Scriptures in Translation." The first writer of that article, Robert G. Bratcher, translator of the Today's English Version (Good News) of the New Testament for the American Bible Society, requested that his work not be used in the revised volume.

The commentary on the book of Exodus by Roy L. Honeycutt Jr., academic dean and professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., and all other general articles are identical with those in the volume published in 1969.

"We have made an earnest effort to publish the volume as directed by Convention action, recognizing that no book can be written that will be satisfactory to everyone," said James W. Clark, director of the board's Broadman division.

The Convention President Speaks

This is the first article under the title "The Convention President Speaks" which I, as your president in this second team, have written. Naturally, my mind is turned back to the annual convention that closed yesterday (November 15). Then when my mind turns in that direction, it is filled with one thing primarily. That is thanks.

Thank you, Mississippi Baptists, for being such a great people. Thank you for being so generous in your words of commendation. Thank you for the wonderful spirit that pervaded the convention was in session. Thank you for cooperating and making the convention a "smooth" one and having a high spirit. Thank you for your understanding in regard to my situation. Thank you for your seriousness in Kingdom work. Thank you for your dedication to the cause. Thank you for just what you are, and what you mean to me, and what you have helped me be.

Now we turn our thoughts in the direction of another year. Let's resolve to make it the best yet. In the next few weeks, I shall try to reflect on the events of this convention and seek to share with you some observations. I believe there are some areas wherein we can improve our convention, and I promise you I shall put forth every effort to make it that way.

—David Grant

Oates, Four Others - - -

of the department of religion and philosophy. He has held church staff positions in Georgia and North Carolina. Baker, a native of Bolivar, Mo., is on furlough from Israel, where he serves as director of Christian service training and editor of the Arabic language Baptist paper, Al-Jama'ah at Haifa.

Lee, a native of Danville, Va., has served as an assistant buyer and office manager with Thalhimers Department Store, Richmond, Va., and as an associate pastor for a church in Winchester, Va.

Graham Says He - - -

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American Baptist Convention and now pastor of St. Louis' Third Baptist Church said, "The St. Louis Billy Graham Crusade of 1973 had one objective — calling persons to Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. Now significant that almost 6,000 made such decisions and were referred to the churches of the bi-state area, many of whom have been revitalized. In record-setting numbers a total of a quarter of a million people gathered to seek God's love, truth and Son. What a mighty witness to the hunger of hearts and the faithful witness of Billy Graham!"

Dr. George Scotchmer pastor of Memorial Presbyterian Church said, "The Crusade surpassed the greatest expectations in terms of attendance. commitment to Jesus Christ, the bringing together of Christians of many denominations and races in a beautiful, joyous fellowship of love, and the spiritual rejuvenation of many believers. The impact of this Crusade will be felt in the churches and in the greater St. Louis area for many years to come. To God be the glory, great things He has done."

St. Louis also provided the Crusade with the largest School of Evangelism that the Graham Team has ever conducted in the United States. More than 1,300 seminary students and young pastors enrolled in the week-long school. Several seminaries in the area sent most of their student body and faculty and gave credit for the courses taken.

Home Mission Board - - -

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Seminary, Louisville, Ky. She is a native of Fort Worth.

James and Jackie Smith, natives of Texas, were appointed as missionary associates. Smith, a Dallas native, will serve as pastor and director of weekday ministries of Peach Bridge Baptist Chapel in Buffalo, N. Y.

He received his bachelor of business administration from North Texas State University in 1957 and his bachelor of arts degree in 1961.

Mrs. Smith, Jacksonville, Tex., native, received her bachelor of science from Texas State College for Women, Denton, and her teacher's certificate from North Texas State.

Natives of Mexico, Ellab and Rosa Maria Saenz also were appointed as associate missionaries.

He will serve as a student full time and Spanish pastor to Calvary Baptist Mission, Karnes City, Tex. They both are attending the Mexican Baptist Bible Institute, San Antonio.

Convention Coverage

The reporting of last week's Mississippi Baptist Convention is being divided into two issues, because of the special coverage the Record has carried concerning the retirement of Dr. Hudgins and the beginning of the administration of Dr. Kelly.

More picture coverage, lists of boards, and some other material have been scheduled for next week.

Picture coverage this year has been the finest we ever have had, because of the assistance of Rev. James Smith, pastor of First Church, Mendenhall. We are deeply grateful to him for his assistance.

Dr. and Mrs. Hudgins Honored In City Event

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States.

"We live in a jungle of governmental regulation on all subjects except freedom of religion, freedom of the press, and freedom of speech.

"To recognize these freedoms and to use them to their highest potential is, in my opinion, the greatest challenge confronting the American people today.

"I know that Dr. Hudgins has done more than his share and has accomplished more than his quota to see that these great principles do not per-

ish from the earth.

"I see a tall, gaunt, sorrowful, genius of a man standing on a great battlefield at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He said, 'The world will little note nor long remember what we say here. It can never forget what they did here.'

"I think this describes the past career of our honored guest; I doubt not that his future activities will only add luster to the saying."

Presiding over the program was Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Con-

vention Board.

The program began with invocation by the Most Reverend Joseph B. Brunini, Bishop of Natchez-Jackson, followed by introduction of special guests.

Tributes to Dr. Hudgins were given by four outstanding Jacksonians, representing several phases of the life of the city. Those were:

The City of Jackson — Mayor Russell Davis; the Rotary Club — Nick Walker, past president; the Chamber of Commerce, Mendell Davis, execu-

tive vice-president of the organization; and the First Baptist Church — C. Chandler Clover, chairman of the Deacons.

Dinner music was presented by the Jackson Symphony String Quartet, composed of Diane Dickson, Joyce Bourdette, Mickey Davis, Russell Bourdette.

Benediction was pronounced by Dr. John Reed Miller, retired, and former pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Jackson.



Judge Coleman



Mayor Davis



Nick Walker



Bishop Brunini



Chandler Clover



Mendell Davis

A Personal Look At The Life Of The New Executive Secretary

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the home church of George Washington Leavell and Corra Alice Berry Leavell, father and mother of the famous nine Leavell boys of Oxford, Cherry Creek sent out Miss Pearl Caldwell as missionary to China in 1910, who became the successor to Lottie Moon. The same church ordained Z. T. Leavell and Martin Ball.

Earl Kelly joined the Cherry Creek Church when he was eleven years old. He remembers, "My mother led me to Christ. I cannot remember going to Sunday School at Cherry Creek when she was not there." His mother taught Primaries in the same church for forty years. Dr. Wilfred Tyler once said that she was the most widely read woman he had known. His pastor, Rev. Henry West, Sr., baptized him in the Maple Lake, between the church and Ecru. Not far from the place where he was baptized, there still stands on the eastern edge of Ecru a big two-story white frame house, with an old dinner bell mounted on a post near the long front porch. This is "the old Berry place" where the mother of the Leavell boys grew up.

The gavel Dr. Kelly used when he was president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in 1965 and 1966 was made of wood from the steeple of the old Cherry Creek Church that was torn down to make way for a brick one in 1949 while Dr. Tyler, late president of Blue Mountain, was pastor there. The gavel was a gift from Stanley Fitzgerald of Inverness, great-nephew of Dr. J. B. Gambrell.

Dr. Kelly's boyhood days were spent on a farm near Ecru. He was born there on December 16, 1922, to Ernest Earl Kelly, Sr., and Lillian Thomason Kelly. Before he was born, his parents had lost twin sons who died at birth and a little girl who died of diphtheria at the age of five. Later they adopted a daughter. (She died two years ago of cancer, at 42).

His mother speaks of his childhood: "I guess Earl was an average little boy. The closest neighbors had no children, but he didn't seem to mind playing alone. He liked to draw and to read. He loved his white bulldog, Jock."

In a recent sermon, to illustrate God's love for man, Dr. Kelly told of an experience in his early life.

"Those days were the years when our nation was undergoing the great depression. My family was poor. There was one thing constantly longed for, though I knew it was not possible for my parents to afford it. I wanted a daisy air rifle. Each year when the Sears and Roebuck catalog came I literally wore out the page on which the daisy air rifle appeared."

"One afternoon when I returned home from school I found a note from

my father pinned to the screen door of the hallway of the farm house in which we lived. He stated that he had taken my mother to a doctor, and that since it would be late before they could return I should feed and milk all the cows. That was a sizable chore for a junior boy. I recall how maltreated I felt and how sorry I was for myself. I cannot tell what I said to those cows, but I felt like the old Quaker who said: 'Friend cow, if thou kickest me one more time, I will not say to thee what I think, but I will sell thee to my friend the Baptist deacon and he will tell thee where to go.'

"Finally, the chores were finished. I went to the house and sat down in the dark living room in a rocking chair to rock my blues away. I heard the old T-model Ford drive into the yard. I didn't get up to meet my parents. They came into the dark room, and fumbled around the mantle board for the diamond match box. My father found it, scratched a match on the hearth, and lighted the kerosene lamp. I noticed he had a long package in his hand. He handed the package to me and said: 'Son, since you stayed at home and cared for the cows without complaining we have brought you a present.' You see, he didn't know what I had said to those cows. When finally my clumsy fingers opened the package, I held in my hands

the most beautiful thing I have ever seen in my life until I met my wife—a beautiful daisy air rifle.

"That night I sat in the room watching my mother brush her long hair down her back and my imagination ran wild. I am certain I saw a large shaggy lion bearing down on me. Quickly I raised the air rifle, took deadly aim, and, without realizing it was loaded, squeezed the trigger. I can still hear the ring of that shot, and hear the cry of pain from my mother as she clutched the back of her neck. I looked and blood was oozing between her fingers."

"I was frightened and hurt because I had hurt my mother. Out of the house I rushed into the night and buried my tear-stained face in my arms on the roots of a large tree. As I sobbed my heart out I felt strong hands take hold of my shoulders and lift me up. It was my mother. Tears trickling down her face flittered like diamonds in the moonlight. She didn't say a word as she held me close. She just leaned over and kissed me. She was saying, 'Yes, you have hurt me, but I love you so much.' The love of my mother has been a conscious controlling influence in my life. Her slightest wish is my command." He went on to say that God's love is like that—that he loves us even when our sins have hurt him.

At the top of the list of those who have influenced him most, he places the names of his mother and father. Second on the list is the name of Miss Birdie Lou Clark, former missionary to Cuba who taught Sunday School at Cherry Creek and first grade at Ecru School. The third name he mentions is that of Dr. Sid Stealey, late president of Southeastern Seminary, and former professor of church history at Southern Seminary. Since Dr. Kelly majored at the seminary in church history he was very closely associated with Dr. Stealey and knew him well.

His school days before the seminary were spent at Ecru High School, Sunflower Junior College, and Mississippi College. He graduated from the latter in 1944.

While he was associate pastor of Calvary Church, Tupelo, in 1946, a blue-eyed young lady joined Calvary, under the watchcare of the church. Later the associate pastor admitted that he was the one who did the watching and the caring! Amanda Harding was then enrolled at the University of Tennessee but was in a student training program in Tupelo as home economist.

She had been born at Cottage Grove, near Paris, Tennessee, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Harding. (When Earl told his grandfather that he was marrying a girl from Paris, that old gentleman ex-



Dr. and Mrs. Earl Kelly, with their children, Dana, Brian, and Kay

pressed hearty opposition to the idea of a French girl in the family! After she graduated from Paris High School and the University of Tennessee she worked in Meridian for a short time and then as district home economist at Tupelo. In the Harding family there were four boys and two girls. Amanda's sister died when she was accidentally struck by a car.

Three years after they met, and after he had received the Th.M. degree, Earl Kelly and Amanda Harding were married. Their wedding was at Calvary Church, Tupelo, on February 21, 1950. Both brunettes, they made a handsome couple.

For their honeymoon, they traveled to the Gulf Coast and spent their wedding night at the old Miramar Hotel. Nobody had told them anything about the place, and they were indeed chagrined to find that every-one there was 65 or above. The old hotel is gone and there is a nursing home on the site now.

He was pastor at Sand Creek Church, Greensburg, Indiana, six years—1947-53. In 1953, the year he was awarded the Th.D. degree from Southern Seminary, he accepted a call to First Church, Holly Springs, and returned to Mississippi.

For fourteen years he was pastor at Holly Springs, and for six years pastor of Ridgecrest Church in Jackson. During this time he has been busy in Baptist affairs, both state and SBC.

A member of a church where he was pastor described him thus: "a good preacher, a good administrator, a good counselor, good at relat-

ing to people, likable, warm-hearted. He has a good sense of humor, and both he and Mrs. Kelly are fun to be around."

He has been Convention Board member, MBCB; first vice-president, and president, Mississippi Baptist Convention; trustee of Southeastern Seminary at Wake Forest, N. C.; member of the Mississippi Christian Education Commission; trustee at Mississippi Baptist Seminary; chairman of the Executive Committee, MBCB; member of the state Long-Range Study Committee, Church and State Study Committee, and Audit, Budget, and Allocations Committee.

The Kellys' white brick house on the corner of Westwind and Woodhaven is furnished with their treasured collection of antiques. Mrs. Kelly, sitting in an elegant Victorian chair in the living room, says, "We usually have Saturdays together as a family."

Their children are Dana, 15 and in the 11th grade (his birthday is Valentine's Day); Brian, 8, in the third grade; and Kay, 6, in the first grade. Their oldest son, Barry, died at the age of nine. (Mrs. Kelly lost her mother and father and his son all within a year's time.)

She remembers that when Barry and Dana were small they prayed for a baby sister. They kept asking her, "Mother, have you REALLY PRAYED HARD for us a sister?" Finally Barry said, "Well, Mother, you will just have to wait and have a granddaughter!" Now the whole family enjoys first-grader Kay whom

they describe as "a little tomboy" and who especially likes to ride horses.

"Earl helps with the breakfast cooking," Mrs. Kelly continues. That is the time of day we have together, before the children get up. When he experiments with a new recipe for dinner he cooks enough to last a month—a huge amount! He likes variety in food, and would welcome a new and different dish every day. "Maybe that was why he chose a talented homemaker and excellent cook for his wife? Not only is she a good cook, but she is a decorator, and a remarkably good seamstress. 'I sew a lot, and I like to work in the yard,' she says. Sometimes she even makes draperies for friends, just for fun. She smiles, 'I'm most at home among the pots and pans.'"

Though she has taught young people and adults, children are her favorites. At Ridgecrest Church she works with children in the First Grade Department in Sunday School. Also she is a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Flower Committee.

The family hobby is sailing on the reservoir in their boat, Lagniappe—"Something extra the Lord threw in for good measure," Dr. Kelly explains the name with a genial grin. He also likes to hunt and fish and often plays golf with Dana. As other hobbies, he lists writing, coin collecting, oil painting. Flying, once on the list, has been scratched off. He had a student's license. "But once I nearly collided with a helicopter. When I stood again on the ground after that, I was through being a pilot."

As an author, he has published *James, A Primer for Christian Living*. At present he is preparing a two-volume work on the Revelation. One volume is ready to submit to a publisher, but he is still working on the other. (He taught a course on the Revelation at Mid-America Bible Conference in Memphis last year. One student in a Bible conference he taught several years ago said, "He finds meaning in the Scripture that I never had thought about, and he uses unusual, yet down-to-earth illustrations in his teaching.") He contributed a chapter to *A History of Mississippi Baptists* and was a contributor to *Southern Baptist Encyclopedia*. When does he find time to write? He says, "I am a restless sleeper. If I wake up in the middle of the night I get up and write. Much I have written was done while everyone else was asleep." He is much in demand as Bible Conference speaker, humorist, and evangelist. He has traveled to South America, the Near East, and Europe and has preached in revivals on mission fields.

(Continued on page 6)



Earl Kelly with his first car.



In his young days on the farm—



Earl Kelly as a boy with his dog, Jock.



Earl Kelly (back row, left) in a Christmas play, in school at Ecru.



Teen-age Earl Kelly and his dad display prize fishing catch.



Earl Kelly at 21 was pastor through the summer for Zion Church in Pontotoc County. Also, for a brief interim, he was pastor of Birmingham Ridge Church in Lee County.



While Earl Kelly was dating Amanda Harding he made many trips to the University of Tennessee. On one occasion he took his friend, Bill Boyce, to date Amanda's friend, Ruth Harris. At right, Earl, with his eye for perfection, is helping Ruth find just the right pose for the picture while Bill looks on.



Earl Kelly and Amanda Harding were married on February 21, 1950, at Calvary Church, Tupelo.



The Kellys honeymooned on the Gulf Coast. They visited Pass Christian (left) and New Orleans (right).



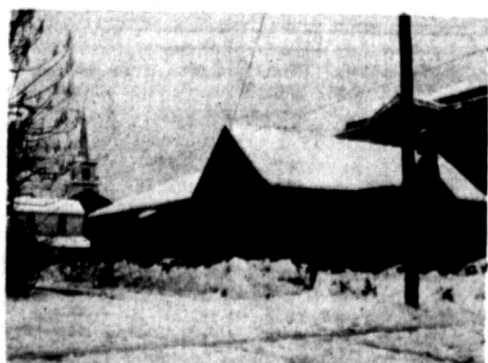
Kelly was pastor of Sand Creek Church, Greensburg, Indiana, six years, 1947-1953.



Dr. and Mrs. Kelly at a church camp, just before they left Indiana to move to Holly Springs.



Dr. Kelly with his mother, Mrs. E. E. Kelly, Sr., on the day he received his Th.D. degree from Southern Seminary.



When the Kellys moved to Holly Springs in 1953, they moved into this house. Later the church built a handsome new pastorium.



The Kelly family in Holly Springs 1963: Barry, 8, Dr. and Mrs. Kelly, Dana, 5. Barry died the next year in April, 1964.



Dr. Kelly with Barry.



The Kellys were in a wreck in Tennessee in December '71, but were not seriously hurt.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

Earl Kelly—New Convention Leader

(Continued From Page 1)

Last week's convention revealed the harmony, the forward-looking spirit, and the far-looked program of the convention. Large goals were adopted, and long range programs revealed. Mississippi Baptists are set for advance.

In such an hour, God has brought to Mississippi Baptists a new leader, and has prepared him for this time and place.

Dr. Earl Kelly is a dedicated Christian, a Baptist of conviction, a believer of the Word of God, a respected scholar, a widely known preacher and Bible teacher, a pastor of broad experience, and a man who has been active in denominational affairs. He has a happy home, with a charming wife and three children. An older son died several years ago.

The story of Dr. Kelly's life and ministry is told elsewhere in this issue of the Record so it is not necessary to repeat it here. Needless to say, those many experiences helped to prepare him for the responsibilities which now have been laid upon him.

Last year, when Dr. Hudgins announced that his retirement would come in 1973, the Convention Board named the Executive Committee as a special committee to nominate a successor.

Many names were considered, and much prayer and soul searching went into the effort. The time came when it became clearly evident to all members of the committee (except Dr.

Kelly, who was chairman, and in the beginning had not allowed the consideration of the recommendations which had been made concerning him) that Dr. Kelly was God's man for the place. They were unanimous in their choice.

When the committee made its recommendation to the board, the choice again was unanimous. It was clear that God was leading the convention toward him as the one to direct the affairs of the convention in this auspicious time.

Dr. Kelly comes to the office with many assets which God has provided, as a preparation for the new task.

He brings his own able leadership ability, thorough training, and broad experience.

He brings an understanding of churches in all areas, rural, small town, and large city.

He brings a broad understanding of the convention and its program, gleaned through long participation in the whole program, as a member of and leader of various boards and committees.

He brings a personal love for people, a concern for the individual, and a dedication to meeting personal needs.

He brings belief in and love for the Bible, doctrinal conviction, and understanding of the central place of the church in New Testament revelation.

He brings broad contacts within the Southern Baptist Convention, and knowledge of and interest in the whole convention program.

He brings the strength of his middle

years, being old enough to have been tested and tried in the fires of experience, and at the same time young enough to give many years of service.

He brings a preparation of heart, wrought by personal suffering and grief, so that he has a heart of understanding, open at all times to the needs of others.

He has a companion, equally dedicated, who will share his burdens day by day, and strengthen his hand as his responsibilities press upon him.

When we add together all of the things with which God has endowed him for this task, and we look at the convention's readiness to move forward, it is clear that Dr. Kelly is God's man for this hour.

God has given us great leaders in the past, and each has filled his own place, and filled it well.

Now a new day, and a new door open to us, and God's leader is in his place. To Dr. Kelly we say "Welcome!"

An entire convention stands ready to follow your leading.

As they have with other leaders in the past, Mississippi Baptists will support you, pray for you, and love you.

A fully staffed organization at the Baptist Building is yours to lead.

Mississippi's agencies and institutions are strong, and united in their purpose. They, too, are ready to move forward for the Lord Jesus Christ.

All Mississippi Baptists salute you! We join you in seeking to know and do God's will for Mississippi Baptists now.

Another Outstanding Convention

Mississippi Baptists have just experienced another outstanding convention. It has held many good conventions in recent years, but this must be ranked with the best.

From the opening gavel to the final amen, there was not a low moment, for a high spiritual level prevailed throughout the meeting.

There were no outstanding decisions made, other than the unanimous adoption of the largest budget in the convention's history, neither were there any negative actions or disturbing decisions.

The Order of Business Committee had planned an inspiring program, with outstanding speakers, unusual features, and interesting innovations.

Officers did an effective job in keeping the sessions moving, and in a good spirit. President David Grant and the vice-presidents, Bob Gamblin and Frank Gunn, who also was chairman of the Order of Business committee, ran the convention with smoothness, and with such a sense of good humor, that there was not a single tense moment.

The only time a question was raised was relative to the Convention Board's recommendation to discontinue the youth night program as a part of the convention. After it was explained that the meeting was not actually a part of the business program of the convention, it may really be cutting down on attendance at some of the closing regular sessions, and to some degree duplicated the youth meeting held in late December, the motion carried. Since the convention some individuals have raised questions concerning the wisdom of the decision, and it is possible that it may be reconsidered at a later convention. The issue, however, was

not a divisive one, and the convention can change its mind without serious conflict, if it so desires.

Sessions of the 1973 convention which will be long remembered were the Tuesday evening session honoring Dr. Hudgins on his retirement, and inaugurating Dr. Kelly; the Wednesday evening on Pioneer Missions with a visual feature presented by Robert Wall, and a challenging message from Southern Baptist Convention president, Owen Cooper; the Thursday morning mission emphasis; and the Thursday evening Youth Night with Dr. Cauthen speaking to the more than 11,000 assembled young people.

A regular feature of each convention the past several years, has been the Bible Study hour set at the beginning of almost all of the sessions. This year's teacher was Dr. Donald Ackland of the Sunday School Board, who brought a series of studies on I Thessalonians. These were deeply spiritual Bible messages, and set the tone for each session. Dr. Ackland is an outstanding Bible teacher and richly blessed the messengers with his expositions.

An innovation this year was a series of three panel presentations in place of usual department and agency reports. All departments and agencies were represented, and their work was presented in a fresh and interesting manner. We expect that this procedure will be used again.

Another addition to the program was the use of visual aids under the skillful direction of Robert Wall of the Mississippi College staff. These presentations were of professional quality, and added much to the effectiveness of reports with which they were used.

As usual, Dan Hall of the Department

of Church Music, provided a continuous array of song leaders, soloists, and other musical features, which added much to the worship and inspirational nature of the program. The use of a visual presentation of song numbers, soloists, etc., was most effective.

One high moment experienced on Wednesday evening, was the announcement by President Grant, who also is serving as chairman of the committee to raise the fund for restoration of Gulfshore, that totaled available reports at that hour revealed that approximately \$800,000 of the \$1,200,000 Gulfshore Drive goal, already had been pledged, and that indications were that the remainder should be raised shortly. This is a drive which should be completed as quickly as possible, so that the restoration of the assembly can be started at an early date. Mississippi Baptists want an assembly facility, and we predict a full success.

Summarizing we can say that it was a good convention. It was positive in its actions, forward-looking in its attitude, and unified in its fellowship. The meeting was one of much inspiration, and we expect that messengers returned to their homes stirred in heart, and challenged to action.

The messengers adopted the largest budget in the convention's history, and thus set for themselves, and for all Baptists of the state, a great financial program as a part of their effort to meet the opportunities God has set before them.

Emphasis in 1974 will be upon the church and church member development. With a tremendous program, an unexcelled unity, and strong organization and leadership, it should be a great year. The 1973 convention has set the direction for it to be that.

"more excellent way" of seeking to find love, understanding and communication solved an otherwise divisive problem. A most helpful book, clearly revealing how to deal with a problem very much present today.

BENJAMIN ALEXANDER SHEEP by Bob Friedman (Regal, 130 pp., pocket book paperback, \$1.25)

An allegorical story about a lamb who was dissatisfied with the life in the flock and sought a greater shepherd. It reminds one of the popular best seller Jonathan Livingston Seagull, but teaches a clearer lesson concerning God's provision for lost man.

ALL ABOUT ANGELS by C. Leslie Miller (Regal, pocket book paper, 128 pp., \$1.25)

In this day of such interest in demons and demonology, this evangelical editor and writer presents the other side of the spirit world as he carefully studies the work of angels and their ministry as revealed in the Bible.

THE SOUL, THE PILL, AND THE FETUS by John Felt (Dorrance & Co., 130 pp., \$4.95)

The subtitle is An Examination of Abortion and Contraception in Relation to the Scriptural Concept of the Total Person. The author seeks to present the history of problems of contraception and abortion and their relationship to the biblical doctrine of person. The author sees a difference in the two problems since one involves a possible person and the other a potential person. The author's conclusion condemns abortion. The book is a helpful volume in scholarly literature on this burning question at this present time.

SO YOUR WIFE CAME HOME SPEAKING IN TONGUES? SO DID MINE! by Robert Branch (Revell, 128 pp., \$1.95)

The experience of a man whose wife professed to be baptized of the Holy Spirit and began speaking in tongues. Her husband did not accept the doctrine and began carefully to study how to answer her claims. The conflict and almost break up of the home is depicted here. The book reveals how that a

NEWEST BOOKS

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION by Wayne E. Oates (Word, 291 pp., \$7.95) Dr. Wayne Oates has been a professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for some 25 years and has been a lecturer and visiting professor at numerous other campuses. He is the author of many books. In this volume he develops the numerous problems related to conversion, spiritual life, and all of the related subjects. The chapters deal with definitions of religion, the psychological roots of religion, the meaning of conversion, mysticism, sin and forgiveness, faith and numerous other subjects. This is a text book so is very thorough in the detail of its presentation. It is not written for the average untrained reader, but will be of real value for those who are trained to use such material.

IN HIM THE FULLNESS by R. E. O. White (Revell, paper, 156 pp., \$2.95)

In the form of homiletic studies the whole volume of twenty-six brief messages center on Christ. There are five sections as follows: Christ in Colossians; The Fullness of Christ; In him the Fullness; The Christ filled Christians; and the Christ filled life.

WHY CAN'T I LEARN? by Robert D. Carpenter, M. D. (Regal, paper, 250 pp., \$2.95)

The subtitle is practical solutions to children's learning problems. An unusual approach, and a resource book that deals practically with the problem of teaching and training for children with learning problems. Written by a man who is not only a trained specialist in his field, but also is a dedicated Christian. The book has many charts, photographs and tables to bring a practical application of the principles presented here.



"O MY SOUL; THE LORD
HATH DEALT
BOUNTIFULLY
WITH THEE"
PSALM 116:7

GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

On The MORAL SCENE...

THE AMERICAN WOMEN TODAY LIVES IN A WORLD inhabited by 3.7 billion human beings, Who increased by 132 persons every minute of every hour of every day, Of whom 2.1 billion suffer from malnutrition, Where 60% of the people in poor countries are under 25, Where most of the 810 million illiterates are women.

THE AMERICAN WOMAN TODAY LIVES IN A COUNTRY With 105,756,000 other women with 798,430 Asian and other nonwhite women, 12,015,000 Black women, 1,283,000 Cuban and South American and other Spanish women, 408,570 Indian woman, 2,461,000 Mexican women, 795,000 Puerto Rican women. Where the population reached 208,174,000 on February 1, 1972, Where the expectation of life for a baby girl is 74 years, Where the average wage earner lives on \$4,197, Where 25 million people are hungry, Where each person accumulates 9.8 pounds of rubbish every day.

THE AMERICAN WOMAN TODAY IS AN URBAN CREATURE Almost two-thirds of American women live in metropolitan areas. Of the remaining one-third, 4,700,000 million live on farms, and most of them are white.

The biggest changes for the country as a whole have occurred in the suburbs which now account for 36% of the population. If the 29% who live in the central cities is added to the number of suburbanites, 65% of all Americans are metropolitan residents. Of the 37 million women living in the suburbs, more than 35 million are white, whereas in the central city less than 24 million are white and more than 6 and a half million are black. Practically no change has occurred in the relative position of Negroes in suburban areas; this is still only one Negro for every 20 whites in the suburbs; a figure that has remained unchanged since 1960.

THE AMERICAN WOMAN TODAY LIVES ABOVE AND BELOW THE POVERTY LINE The median income for all families in 1970 was about \$9,870; for white families it was \$10,240; for Negro families it was \$6,520 and for Spanish families it was \$5,641. Between 1969 and 1970 the number of poor increased about 5.1%, with 260,000 additional families falling below the government-defined poverty line (\$3,968 for a four-member non-farm family). We now have 25.5 million poor, or 13% of our total population. (Feminine Figures 1972, Data Center, National Board, YWCA)

ECONOMIC CRISIS — (Princeton, N. J.) A Gallup poll conducted during the period September 7-10 established concern over high prices, or inflation, as the chief worry of the American people. "Concern over economic problems is greater today than at any other time since the job - lean years of the late 1930's when one-sixth of the total working force was unemployed. Presently inflation is also easily the top problem in each of the four major regions of the country. . . . Inflation has important political implications. In a recent Gallup survey 46 per cent of the public blamed the federal government for inflation whereas 25 per cent placed the blame on labor and 19 per cent on business. . . . Among those citing inflation as the top problem, many single out food prices specifically. . . . The last time economic worries played as important role in the thinking of Americans as they do today was during the recession of 1958." (The Nashville Tennessean, September 27, 1973)

HIGH HOSPITAL COSTS — The cost of being sick — never a bargain — is getting worse all the time — about 14 per cent worse each year, if you're hospitalized. "In 1950, one could expect to spend just under 17 dollars a day in the hospital. By 1970, that cost had risen to an incredible 81 dollars per day. Hospital administrators claim that the rising costs are attributable to higher hospital expenses like labor." However, not many nurses, practical nurses, orderlies, janitors or maintenance personnel have seen their salaries increased 20 per cent per year. (News and Views, Vol 22, No. 30, October 12, 1973)



A Woman's World Reaches Far

Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

There is only one thing that can be said for the mulligrubs — you do get over them. The same thing can be said for the do-nothings.

Rarely ever am I troubled with the common cold or the seven-year itch, but the mulligrubs and the do-nothings plague me greatly at various intervals. Probably they belong in the 24-hour-or-less viruscategory — that's usually the duration of each.

The mulligrub syndrome is fairly consistent. It's the triggering factor that is unpredictable. It may range from a sad expression on a boy's face to a rejection slip from a publisher to absolutely nothing. It really is a mystifying thing, totally incapable of being anticipated.

Once triggered, the syndrome progresses, as I said, in a fairly consistent pattern: solemn face, slow gait, reluctant carrying out of chores, brief conversational response, slight-to-heavy disapproval of everything and everybody. It rarely goes away gradually. Its departure is usually as sudden as its advent. Then the family quits dodging me.

The triggering factor of the do-nothings is usually one of two things. First, the do-nothings may follow a period of unusual strenuous physical accomplishment — like two days of thorough heavy housecleaning, or making curtains, or antiquing furniture, or yard work. For a day I just sit. We rummage for something to eat. If company comes, it's too bad.

Second, the do-nothings are triggered by a knowledge that I have two days of unusual strenuous physical accomplishment waiting me which I cannot put off another day because it has already been put off too many days before now. So, I read it one more day, finding I can put it off one more day, but I do this dreading while sitting down doing nothing. The do-nothings end suddenly, too, nearly always with the satisfactory accomplishment of a tremendous amount of work.

Why have I tried to figure out these things that happen to me? Because it's good for a woman to try to know herself. It's easier to live with her if she does — easier for her to live with herself and easier for her family to live with her if they try to know her better.

Probably what most families would hate to see would be simultaneous attacks of the mulligrubs and the do-nothings. My family wouldn't hate it nearly as much as I would. I'm not sure I'd recover. Happy Thanksgiving! Box 9151, Jackson, Ms. 39206.

All of us feel the pull and pressure of doing too many things, often unrelated to our work so we feel stretched out. Maybe real strength is demonstrated in saying "no" so our basic goals aren't missed. We can't be persons of all seasons.—Tom Haggal

"The most we can get out of life is its discipline for ourselves, and its usefulness for others." — William D. Marsland, The Oxford (N.Y.) Review Times.

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Competency And Responsibility

By David Grant
Mississippi Baptist Convention
Tuesday, November 13, 1973

You will notice I have listed as a subject, "Competency and Responsibility." My intention is to share with you the primacy of the individual, person and church, and also to point out the responsibility which this primacy incurs.

A strong conviction of mine is that this convention belongs to the people of the convention. Another conviction, and it is even stronger, is that every person who is a member of any Baptist church within the bounds of this convention is of major significance.

But I want to quickly say, I am not alone in these beliefs. The primacy of the individual has been a distinctive doctrine of Baptists since their conception. We believe it is the individual that is the object of God's love. The individual response to the divine approach is the only acceptable reaction. Thus, the individual is of priceless value to this convention. If it were not for you — country preachers and laymen in country churches, town preachers and laymen in town churches, or pastors in the city and laymen within the city churches — we would have no convention. I want to stress, reemphasize, underscore, and put in italics that the individual, regardless of who he is and where he is, is of major significance. I am seeking to dispel the idea or notion, regardless of its source, that anyone is unimportant in Mississippi Baptist life. All are important in the sight of God and of this convention.

Another strong Baptist principle is the value of the local congregation. Each of the 1,873 churches is of vital importance in the sight of God and in the work of this convention. I do not believe it is the size of the church or the location that makes it important. Neither is it the size of the budget or whether it has the "every member plan" for the Baptist Record. The significance of the church is not even determined as to whether it has the restoration of Gulfshore in the budget or not! A church can be great and be within the city limits of our capital city or it can be great located in the very heart of our most rural section of this beloved Magnolia State.

The convention constitution recognizes the value of the local church. Article VI, Section 2, says, "This Convention shall always recognize and observe the equal rights and independence of the churches; it shall not possess nor attempt to exercise power or authority over any church or association of churches. This Convention is hereby irrevocably committed to the principle of the complete sovereignty of local churches."

If and when this convention ever by the work, word, or influence of a denominational worker, by the pressure of a program, by insinuations over a coffee cup, by catty remarks of some egotists, or any other way, seeks to usurp the sovereignty, autonomy, moral rights, and value of the local congregation, then the convention needs to take steps immediately to correct her error.

This principle is further protected in regard to membership in the convention. Article III of the constitution is entitled, "Membership." Section 2 says:

"Each church shall be entitled to one messenger for the first hundred, or fraction thereof, of its membership, and one messenger for each additional one hundred members, or major fraction thereof, but no church shall be entitled to more than ten messengers."

A study of the table of church membership as is recorded on page 205 of the 1972 Annual, will reveal that an effort is made to protect the interest of the individual church regardless of size. The Mississippi Baptist Convention really labors this point as is seen in the organization of the convention board. Two things are very noticeable in Article I, Section 2 of "The Plan of Organization and Action." One is that every association, regardless of the number of churches or the size of churches or the location of the association is entitled to one board member and that no association can have over four board members regardless of size. The second thing that is noticeable is that the association is responsible for nominating their board member and of notifying the executive secretary of such action.

According to Article II of "The Plan of Organization and Action," Section 1, the executive committee, "shall have power and authority to carry on the work of the Convention as directed by the Convention Board." The convention board policy number 2 entitled, "The Executive Committee," Section A entitled, "Election," reads, "The Convention Board shall elect annually an executive committee of nine members." Section B, entitled "Membership," reads:

"The executive committee shall be composed of the president, vice-president, and secretary of the board and six others to be elected by nominations from the floor and elected by ballot at the post-convention board meeting. At least three members of

the preceding year shall be elected." Thus do we see that this organization makes no respecter of person or church is so far as membership is concerned. Each person and church holds equal opportunity and rank.

Not only do the constitution and by-laws, along with organizations, give emphasis to the competency and primacy of the individual and the local church, but also the history of the action of this convention has carried out this concept. Personal observation, while serving on various committees, has convinced that no discrimination has ever been made to a church or person regardless of size, location, monetary contribution, or prestige. None of these have been the determining factors as to who would be recognized for what. But in every meeting it has been my privilege to attend, an effort to know and do the will of God has always prevailed.

In my address thus far, I have sought to establish the truism of the primacy and or competency of the individual and the preeminent importance of each local church. With this in mind, there arises another old axiom that is equally as important in Mississippi Baptist life, but somewhat less stressed, namely: "Privilege carries with it responsibility." John D. Rockefeller, Jr. is quoted as saying, "I believe that every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity an obligation; every possession a duty." Using Mr. Rockefeller's statement as a starting point in discussing responsibility, I want to elaborate on his remarks.

"Every right implies responsibility." Apply this concept to Mississippi Baptist life. Every church has a right to vote through her messenger and-or messengers. Each member of this convention has a right to discuss, dissent, support, differ, etc., but these rights imply responsibility. Thus Christian people who exercise their rights must also act responsibly.

"Every opportunity an obligation." In my opinion, it is an opportunity to meet here in this convention. It is an opportunity to receive reports, to discuss and approve budgets that spread the Good News of Jesus Christ around the world, of supporting commissions and institutions. But these opportunities carry with them obligations. We are obligated to support the work. We are obligated to work ourselves.

"Every possession a duty." This is self-explanatory.

James Bryant Conant, a former president of Harvard University, said, "The primary concern of American education today is not the development of the appreciation of the 'good life' in young gentlemen born to the purple. . . Our purpose is to cultivate in the largest possible number of future citizens, an appreciation of both the responsibilities and the benefits which come to them because they are Americans and are free."

In an effort to paraphrase this statement and apply it to Mississippi Baptist life, I want to say, the primary concern of Mississippi Baptists today is not to develop a denominational pride or promote pious egotism or strengthen the power of a power-hungry clique, but our purpose is to accept the responsibility of carrying out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ, and this responsibility includes every person and every church, regardless of whether they are on a committee or not.

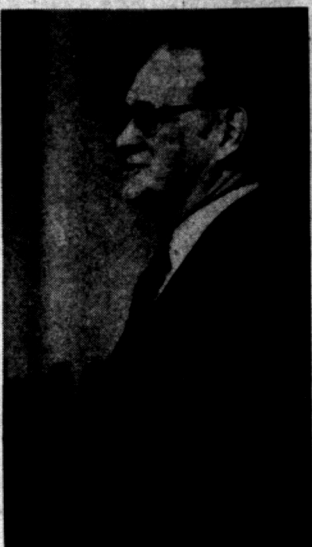
Roy Menninger said responsibility "is an acknowledgement of the importance of continuing to think about problems and dilemmas, neither turning away in frustration nor hurling one's self forward into them under the pressure of guilt." I am afraid many of us do NOT THINK about problems and dilemmas. Rather we do turn away in frustration. In so doing we either see it as black or white, my way and no one else's. We deal with it in a spirit of suspicion — suspicion of someone's motives, purposes, or ethics. We turn in frustration by dissenting and sometimes dividing. We turn in frustration by criticizing, backbiting, undercutting, opposing and seeking to defeat. On other occasions, we do hurl ourselves forward into our problems under the pressure of guilt in order to divert attention from our guilt — at times guilt of omission and at times, guilt of commission.

Now in the remainder of the address, I want to talk with you about intelligent, mature, and spiritual responsibility as it applies to the individual and the church.

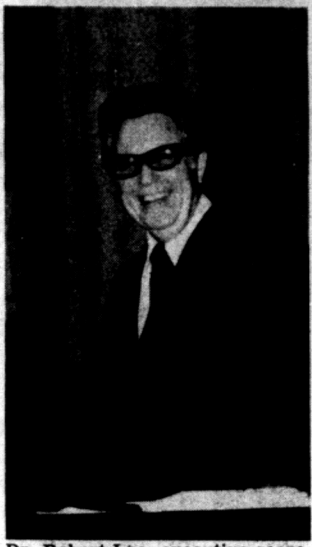
There are three responsibilities of the church which I want to point out. One, it is the church's responsibility to have messengers at this convention. Two, a church can assume its responsibility by a monetary contribution — each according to her ability, and not in relation to another. Three, a church can share in the responsibility by securing adequate information and acting intelligently upon an issue. There are many sources of information: The Baptist Record, your board member, a letter to the executive secretary, a personal contact with the person with the right information. We are acting irresponsibly if we vote, talk, and-or complain without the information.

"Spotlighting The Executive Secretary"

Tuesday Night Session Honors Dr. Hudgins



Dr. Joe T. Odle, Baptist Record editor, spoke on the topic, "Dr. Hudgins as a Spiritual Leader."



Dr. Robert Lee, executive secretary, Louisiana Baptists, paid tribute to Dr. Hudgins as an executive secretary.



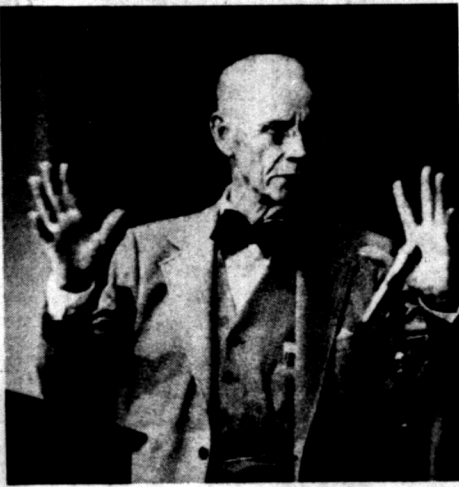
Dr. Porter Routh, executive secretary, SBC, spoke on the subject, "Dr. Hudgins, Southern Baptist."



Dr. Winston Crawley, director of Overseas Division, Foreign Mission Board, paid tribute to Dr. Hudgins as a missionary.



Mrs. Dawn Gandy of Hattiesburg sang "He Lifted Me" and "Marvelous Grace."



Dr. Louie Newton, former pastor of Druid Hills Church, Atlanta, delivered the closing tribute and entitled it "W. Douglas Hudgins, A Man Sent From God."



Dr. Hamblin presented to Dr. Hudgins a bound book of letters of appreciation, and other gifts.



Dr. Hudgins led in prayer as Dr. Earl Kelly was inaugurated as Mississippi Baptists' new executive secretary. Dr. Robert Hamblin, who presided over the program is in background.



Dr. and Mrs. Earl Kelly and Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Hudgins were honored at a reception following the special program at the church on Tuesday evening.



A large crowd attended the reception which was held in the lobby of the Baptist Building.

Now let us turn our attention toward individual messengers acting responsibly, or to word it another way, individuals of this convention assuming responsibility that is a concomitant to their competency or primacy.

My observation has taught me that we can act as responsible people by being a part in solving a problem and not a part in making them. Knowledgeable people have no difficulty in finding and-or recognizing problems. They are here in multiple fashion. We can be a part of a problem by always demanding to be heard. We can be a part of a problem by never bending in an opinion, refusing to listen, or yielding to the temptation of questioning a motive, criticizing a brother, and undercutting and refusing to cooperate with him. But as responsible people, we must seek answers, we must work to solve problems and not complicate or add to them. We can be a part of problem-solving by being docile in spirit, cooperative in effort, supportive in action, encouraging in word, tireless in work, and never ceasing in prayer.

The individual can be a responsible person by acting intelligently in regard to a matter. Intelligence can be had by the use of the mind. What are the facts? How do they relate? What are the alternatives? What other recourse is there? And what are the sources of information and resources to expedite? These questions and others can be asked in the right spirit and at the right time. These questions must be answered before one can act intelligently.

He can further be responsible by

cultivating the Holy Spirit in the inner man. Paul says the fruits of the Spirit are "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance," Galatians 5:22-23. We cannot love a person or thing and do him or it wrong. We cannot have joy in the Holy Spirit and be disgruntled in our own spirit. We cannot have peace in the inner man and be at war with our fellowman. We cannot exercise longsuffering and be quick-

tempered. We cannot be gentle and harsh. We cannot be good and bad. We cannot have faith and be controlled by doubt. We cannot be meek and arrogant. We cannot exercise self-control and act impulsively.

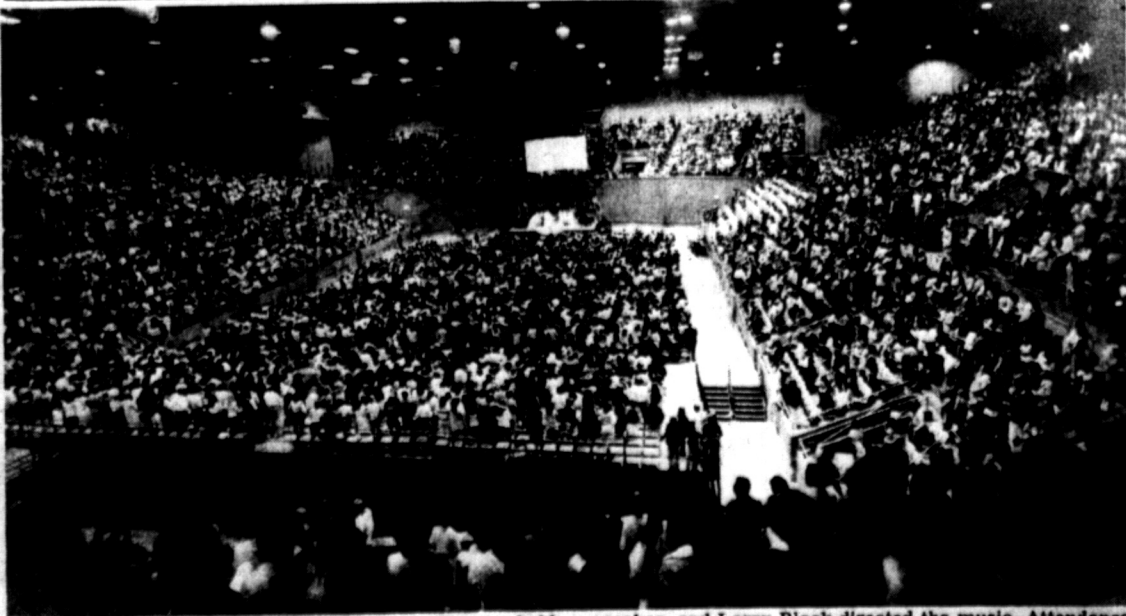
One acts responsibly in relation to his competency when there is genuine integrity used.

"When General Dean was a prisoner of the Communist Chinese in Korea and had been led to believe

that he would soon be shot, he wrote a letter to his wife with instructions for their son. He wrote: 'Tell Bill the word is integrity'."

Earl Nightingale has some helpful remarks in regard to integrity. "Here is the best advice a parent can give a child. With that single word and realizing all that it means, a young man or woman can look forward to a tremendously rewarding life. It will mean living by the Golden Rule."

(Continued on page 6)



The Thursday evening youth night program was held at the Coliseum. Dr. Baker J. Cauthen was the featured speaker, and Larry Black directed the music. Attendance was above 10,000.

Kelly Is Ninth Man To Serve As Convention Board Secretary

By R. A. McLemore,
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Baptist
Historical Commission

William Harris Hardy, dedicated layman, prominent business man, and president of the Convention stated in his presidential address in 1883 that, "I believe the great work of Baptists throughout the world is Unification — one in heart, one in purpose, and one in plans, as we are already one in faith and one in hope." Despite Hardy's urging and James Bruton Gambrell's enthusiastic support, the Convention turned down the unification proposal in 1883 and again in 1884. In 1885 the opposition was finally overcome and the "Convention Board of the Mississippi Baptist Convention" was established to coordinate the work of the denomination.

In the eighty-eight years that have elapsed since it was organized, eight men have served as executive secretaries of the Convention Board. These men and some of the significant accomplishments of their periods of service as leaders of Baptist life provide one viewpoint of the history of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

James Bruton Gambrell, the first executive secretary, served from 1885 to 1887. The high point of his tenure was the establishment of the headquarters of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson. Gambrell was also instrumental in uniting the mission programs of the Convention.

John Tyler Christian served from 1887 to 1893. He strengthened the organization of the Baptist work and aided in financing the construction of the First Baptist Church of Jackson.

Abner Vernon Rowe served from 1893 to 1914, the longest tenure of any secretary. During his administration several significant accomplishments were made. The Baptist Record was purchased by the Convention Board. Fulltime secretaries were employed for the Sunday School and the Woman's Missionary Union. The Education Commission was organized. The Convention Board indebtedness was paid. The Mississippi Baptist Orphanage and the Mississippi Baptist Hospital were established and Mississippi Woman's College (now William Carey College) was organized. Rowe represented Mississippi at the first Baptist World Alliance meeting. State wide prohibition was adopted during this period.

James Benjamin Lawrence, whose years of office were 1914 to 1922, led

in the reorganization of associations along county lines. Also during this period Clarke College and Blue Mountain College were acquired. The 75

Million Campaign was launched, and Mississippi was the first state to underwrite its goal for this campaign. The Social Service Program was

given equal status with missions and education, and the Baptist Young Peoples Union department was organized.

Richmond Baker Gunter's term of service was from 1922 to 1939. During this period the 75 Million Campaign was completed, and the Cooperative Program of giving was introduced. He also led in the purchase of the Baptist Building at North President and Capitol Streets. It was during this period that accreditation of Baptist colleges was secured by providing funds for their endowment. The Education Commission was suspended due to the critical financial situation.

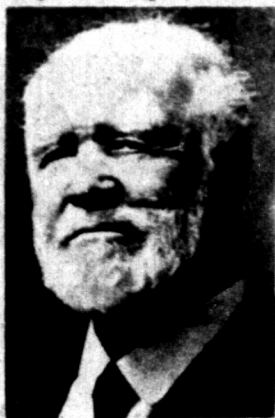
Drule Anselm "Scotchle" McCall served from 1939 to 1950. He was the first to hold the title of executive secretary. The debt paying campaign was completed, and the denomination became free of debt in 1945. The Baptist Headquarters Building on Mississippi Street was purchased in 1945, and a denominational calendar was adopted. The Brotherhood, Music, and Baptist Student Union departments were organized. A minister's retirement plan was adopted, the Mississippi Baptist Foundation was organized, and the Education Commission was reactivated.

From 1950 to 1968 Chester Lew Quarles served in the position which now carries the title of executive secretary - treasurer. During this time

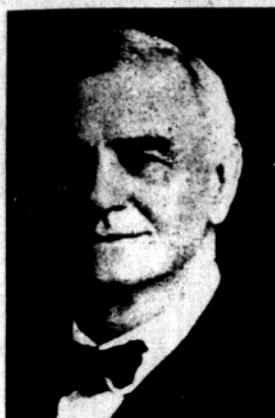
the Cooperative Program increased from \$802,916 in 1950 to \$1,670,471 in 1968. Kittlingworth assembly ground and developed. The headquarters building and constructed. The Baptist Orphanage with the Children's Village plant was built. The Baptist Historical Commission

W. Douglas Hudgins, executive secretary from 1968 to 1973, introduced during his term a computer accounting system, control of business operations in providing relief for the needy, especially for the victims of the cane Camille and of other disasters. Plans for rebuilding were instituted, and a campaign was begun. Reestablished Baptist Hospital during this period.

Ernest Earl Kelly, executive secretary - treasurer, numbered 558,742 in 1973. The total annual contribution budgets of the church were \$96,007.



J. B. Gambrell
1885-1887



J. T. Christian
1887-1893



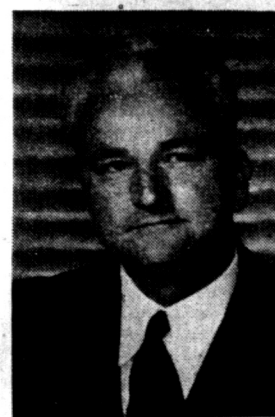
A. V. Rowe
1893-1913



J. B. Lawrence
1914-1921



R. B. Gunter
1921-1939



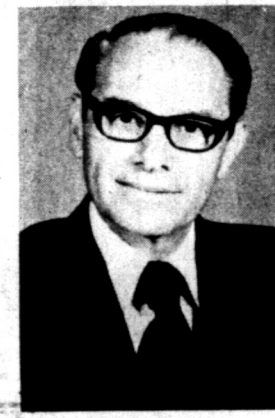
D. A. McCall
1939-1950



Chester L. Quarles
1950-1968



W. Douglas Hudgins
1968-1973



E. Earl Kelly
1973-

A Personal Look

(Continued from page 3)

On September 14 of this year, his mother and father celebrated their sixteenth wedding anniversary, on the same farm where their son grew up. Ancient oaks shelter the white house, making it a place of quiet beauty. A fig tree grows by the back door and a tall magnolia in a corner of the yard. Chrysanthemums add a splash of color. Inside, the grandchildren's pictures are on display, and over the buffet in the dining room is an oil painting, a moonlight seascape, by Earl Kelly. His mother still does the cooking for herself and her husband. A couple of Sundays ago she had chicken and dressing for lunch, and candied sweet potatoes and coconut pie. With a smile in her warm brown eyes (eyes much like those of her son) she said, "I always have had an extra plate ready for anybody who came, friends of the children, or anyone."

Down the road two or three miles, Cherry Creek still stands on its hilltop, the same place it has been for 130 years. In front stretches a wide green valley. To the side lies the cemetery, many of the gravestones black with age. Woods form a half circle at the back; the oak and the sweetgum, the dogwood and the hickory are gold and scarlet. Everywhere the goldenrod blooms.

In the thicket behind this church, Dr. Gambrell dedicated his life to God. In 1866 he had returned from the War and was full of grudges when he went to the Associational meeting at Cherry Creek. He later wrote of his experience: "I left the place where I was stopping and went early to the church, before anybody else got there. I went down into a blackjack thicket,

hitched old Caesar, and went off in the woods. It didn't appear to ever would get on with the Yankees, but going over the trouble another view. I thought, 'been spared; how much forgiveness myself, meditating that way and the sunshine came there was no trouble body. It was a great came to me clear as the skies what I owe gave myself up to it.'

In these same woods walked and played the same church, he was he professed his faith was ordained to the week he was inaugurated Mississippi Baptists' executive. Can't you see his cheeks smiling and nodding in approval?

Dr. Kelly Is

(Continued from

Mr. Perry described a man of deep spirit. Dr. Kelly's tenure came effective Nov. 16, 1973. He assumed executive secretary - treasurer in order to use his familiarity with the church closely with the outgoing secretary - treasurer.

After accepting the said he was "coveted" of all Mississippi Baptists.

He pledged to continue to the position of Christ. He said he "wished Mississippi Baptists to great heights" and to board for its confidence.

Dr. Kelly, age 50, Ecu and holds the A. B. degree from the Mississippi Delta State University, Moorhead; the B. A. degree from the Mississippi College and the Th.D. degrees from the Baptist Seminary, Louisville.

Dr. Kelly came to pastorate from the First Church of Holy Springs, where he was pastor of St. Paul's Church, Greensburg, late pastor of Calvary Church, Tupelo.

Dr. Kelly is active in Mississippi Baptist life as well as Southern Baptist Convention and has been on the board of trustees of Baptist Seminary.

Dr. Kelly has traveled and conducted revival Baptist mission field work as an evangelist, speaker and as a member of the Southeastern Baptist Convention, N. C.

Previously he has been president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and has been on the board of trustees of Baptist Seminary.

Dr. Kelly has traveled and conducted revival Baptist mission field work as an evangelist, speaker and as a member of the Southeastern Baptist Convention, N. C.

He is married to the late Mrs. C. C. Kelly. They have four children: Barry (deceased); David, one daughter, Kay, and Ridgecrest Baptist Church, shown a substantial development under Dr. Kelly.

Baby - sitting is a cause it meets a cry. Husbands lay down wives usually repeat. The carriers and in every church.

It takes a raft of men family afloat these days.

President's Address: Competency And Responsibility

(Continued from page 5)

Rule, an insurance policy that guarantees abundance.

"Integrity is the quality we most often look for in others. Integrity is the world's most valuable quality in a service, a product, or a person.

"If one uses the word 'integrity' as a guide for all his dealings with others, he can rest easy in the knowledge that he will find it coming back to him in countless ways. . . .

"The man or woman of integrity doesn't have to contend with a haunted house full of fears and worries. Since this person treats everyone with whom he comes in contact and everything he does with integrity, it will be reflected throughout his world.

"There are probably millions of people who would not steal someone else's property but who think it is all right to give less than their best to their work. . . . We look for our own shortcomings in others. But the man or woman of integrity, expects integrity in others as a matter of course.

"Over the long haul, the person who lacks integrity in any aspect of his life. . . is a person who has failed to mature. . . . Seldom does this type of individual ever wake up to the fact that he is simply sawing off the limb he is sitting on, and sooner or later he has to take his fall."

The time comes when the conscience of a man with integrity dictates a no. It may also force one to be in opposition and-or dissent. When it does so under God, he must do so. God has given us minds and He expects us to use them. Truly integrity also prompts the use of certain principles to be valid, such as: when the majority acts, it then becomes the program of the entire convention. Integrity is acting wisely, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, on an issue. Integrity would never act irresponsibly.

Loyalty is still another expression of one's responsibility. Loyalty includes both work and action. Combine integrity with loyalty and you will not find double talk, or as we say, talking out of both corners of the mouth, or saying one thing and doing another. Genuine loyalty will not talk and-or act one way while in one place under certain circumstances and then another in a different place with varying circumstances. Loyalty is not found vacillating when in different company. Loyalty is found in paying the cost of gratitude, rendering a service, being an ambassador of goodwill, working to correct the wrong,

strengthen the weak, and support the good. Loyalty is found when the going is tough as well as when everything is a bed of roses. Loyalty is born out of a mind that is just in its thinking, a backbone that is strong under its load, a will that is objective in its purposes, and a heart that is compassionate. Loyalty accepts the good with the bad, the bitter with the sweet, the unpleasant with the pleasant, and the disagreeable with the agreeable. Loyalty refuses to compromise in the face of expediency. Loyalty is supportive in its role, encouraging in its demeanor, and cooperative in its effort. A great need in denominational life is sheer loyalty.

As we reflect on responsibility in relation to competency, it will be advantageous to reflect on the type influence we exert. Webster defines influence as "the act or the power of producing an effect without apparent force or direct authority; as . . . by suggestion." Every Mississippi Baptist is going to be accountable for his influence. Each preacher will be so in the life he lives, the conduct of his behavior, and the message he proclaims. Each convention member will also be responsible for the influence he exerts, whether it involves speaking to a motion, voting on a recommendation, mumbling in the bookstore, whispering in the corner, working as a committee member, reporting to a church, or framing a resolution. Influence can be good or bad. But mature Christians owe it to God, their convention, association, and church to seek to always be an influence for good.

Since it has been my wonderful privilege to serve as president of this convention, I have been on the same program on two different occasions with the president of our Southern Baptist Convention, and have heard him use three words that he probably will use when he speaks to us on Wednesday evening. One of these words is ability. There is no question in my mind but what Mississippi Baptists have ability. It is seen on every hand in the lives of individuals — clergy and laity. It is seen in the individual churches. Buildings are beautiful. Programs are plentiful. Organizations are great. Challenges are multiple. Opportunities are unlimited. God has blessed with ability. Each person and church is endowed with competency.

Now we must be responsible. Every person, every church, every association, every institution, every agency, commission, and committee must — we simply must — assume responsibility.

There is no time for anything less than our best. The urgency of the hour is advance. The clarion call from above is to charge. The Macedonian plea from without is to come over and help. The demand of respectability from within says move on. The clock has struck eleven. The wheels of time are turning toward eternity. We are responsible. I say under God, WE ARE RESPONSIBLE.

Some day we are going to be accountable. The day of reckoning will come. The all-wise, never-erroring, loving, just Heavenly Father will look you and me in the face as individuals. He will check your and my church records, and He will audit the affairs of this convention. It is my prayer and my hope that we, one and all, will be found faithful. God help us to do so.



David Grant, President



Robert Hamblin, First Vice President

Convention Officers In Action



Horace Kerr, Recording Secretary, and John McDonald, Associate Recording Secretary



Frank Gunn, Second Vice President

tary

ram receipts in 1950 to \$3,000. Wake and Gulf Shores were acquired by the new Baptist church. The church was planned by the Mississippi Baptist Convention and was replaced by a new church, and a new Mississippi Baptist Convention was chartered.

s served as executive secretary in 1968 to 1973. The church was aided by the Mississippi Baptist Convention during this period of reconstruction and efficient operations. He led the church through the distressed, victims of Hurricane Delta Tornado striking Gulf Shores and a financial calamity. The rebuilding of the Mississippi Baptist Convention was also aided.

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my war horse, woods by myself. me then that I speaking terms at I sat there, less, there came light of how I had need I had of and while I was the clouds broke me. In that hour at all to forgive; e to love every- at hour and it as a voice from light to do and I service."

Earl Kelly as a boy. In the church. There in Christ, and ministry. Last ministered as Mississippi secretary, Jerry Creek fore- leading their heads

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ed Dr. Kelly as a character. of service be- 14 but beginning the position of treasurer - elect period to become duties, working going executive

new position he ing the prayers Baptists."

is a native of A. degree from Junior College, degree from and both the Th.M. in Southern Baptist, Ky.

the Ridgecrest First Baptist Church prior to that and Creek Baptist Ind., and associ- Baptist Church,

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member of the Mis- sion Commission of board of trust- committee of the Seminary, Wake

served as presi- pi Baptist Con- a member of the of the Mississippi

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the former Aman- Grove, Tenn. ren; Three sons, ana, Brian, and

st Church has a growth and de- Kelly's leader-

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ays.



Dr. Kelly served as president of the Mississippi Baptist State Convention in 1965 and 1966. He is pictured with other convention officers.



Dr. Kelly was a member of the Executive Committee, MBOB, 1964-65 and the committee's chairman 1969-73.

Earl Kelly

Leader In Baptist Affairs



Dr. Kelly was a member of the Christian Education Commission, MBOB, 1966-69.



Dr. Kelly helped break ground for new Baptist Building July 11, 1966-69.

Sunday School Lesson: International

Paul's Challenge: Always Be Of Good Courage

2 Corinthians 4:1 to 5:10

By Clifton J. Allen

This lesson concludes our study of "The Gospel According to Paul." It is a good time to review the lessons for the past three months and to reflect seriously on whether we have gained better understanding of and deeper convictions about the Christian gospel as interpreted by the apostle Paul. We should realize that the gospel is a revelation of the truth in Christ which calls for belief, commitment, and proclamation. The gospel is a revelation of a way of life in terms of personal morality and interpersonal relationships which express Christian love. The gospel is a call to ministry to other persons. And it is a challenge to faith, courage, and endurance as we seek to serve others. Paul was writing out of personal experience. He had given himself with full devotion in sharing the gospel and in enduring hardship as an ambassador of Christ. One should study carefully the larger Bible lesson for a fuller understanding of the glory and shame, of the suf-

ferings and faith and hope, that marked Paul's ministry. **The Lesson Explained** **FAITH TO ENDURE (4:16-18)** Paul says "we faint not." This means that he did not lose heart. He knew affliction, perplexity, persecution, and violence that came near taking his life. Paul of course realized the limitations of bodily strength, the fact that he was growing older, and the possibility that death might overtake him at any point. He declared, "The inward man is renewed day by day." This means that the inner nature does not have to decline like the strength of the body. It is renewed constantly by the working of the Holy Spirit. We have in verse 18 one of Paul's magnificent insights about putting first things first. The things seen are transient, but the things unseen are eternal. We ought to be concerned chiefly about enduring values. **LONGING FOR LIFE (5:1-5)** Paul paints a vivid picture of contrast by saying we live in an earthly tent but after death we shall live in a building built by God. The apostle's words are all the more striking because he was a tentmaker. He knew the transitoriness of tents. It is like camping out. But Paul declared his assurance that, after death, he would

have a permanent building or home. Likely Paul was simply thinking of a heavenly temple where he would be with the Lord. While Paul longed for the return of the Lord and for the receiving of a resurrection body without death, he knew that death might occur at any time; and he longed, even groaned, to enter into life in the presence of the Lord. And he yearned not to be found naked, that is to be unseemly in the presence of the Lord, but to be clothed with the righteousness of the Lord and thus transformed into the likeness of the Lord. God has given us assurance of life beyond death in that we have received "the earnest of the Spirit."

AMBITION TO PLEASE CHRIST The Christian can face life now with courage, and he can look forward to the life to come with confidence and inspiring expectation. In this life we must walk by faith; in the future life faith will be fulfilled in sight. In this life our constraining ambition should be to be acceptable to Christ, that is, to be pleasing to him. It is in this human situation that we have such urgent need of moral and spiritual courage. And it is in this human situation, in which we are constantly subject to temptation of the Lord. Our conduct

before the world should be controlled by this desire and ambition. Our behavior should declare that we are not living for the gratification of the flesh but that we are living according to the patterns and example of Jesus and for values which have eternal worth. We should be willing to be disciplined in our living, patient in suffering, uncomplaining about hardship, and willing to bear the burdens of others with compassion. We should not live henceforth for ourselves but unto him who died for us and rose again. Our attitude toward ourselves ought to be pleasing to Christ. We should not be self-centered, exalting ourselves above others. And our attitude to the Lord should be one of gratitude for his grace.

last Christmas when the choir toured Ecuador's principal cities and sang Handel's "Messiah" in Spanish. Although several Cuenca citizens predicted the marathon would take anywhere from two weeks to two months, 37 persons, ranging in age from 11 to 70, signed up for half-hour reading periods. According to Jones, no period was without a reader and one man read continuously for more than eight

Ecuadorian Church Holds Bible-Reading Marathon

CUENCA, Ecuador — A new pulpit Bible givento the First Baptist Church here by members of First Baptist Church, Abilene, Tex., is not gathering dust on the altar.

Members of this church in Ecuador's third largest city recently read aloud through the Bible for 82 consecutive hours during a Bible-reading marathon planned as a dedication and thanksgiving service for the new Bible, according to Archie V. Jones, Southern Baptist missionary and pastor of the church.

Choir members from the Abilene church that donated the Bible made friends with church members here

hours. Readers included day laborers, professional university professors, church members and for was the first time they Bible aloud. Several young boys church in case they were fill a vacancy during the began at 5:30 p.m. on and ended at 4:35 a.m. Thursday. Enthusiasm for the marathon was so great that the church people are planning a New Year's reading marathon during the holidays which about 20 hours.

John B. Laney Dies At Oxford

The Rev. John B. Laney, 59, was chairman of an apparatus for a attack on Wednesday evening, Nov. 14 at the Oxford - Lafayette County Hospital.

Funeral services were conducted from the First Baptist Church Oxford, at 2 p.m. Friday. A long time friend and associate Dr. James E. Southerland conducted the last rites. Assisting were Rev. Jim Bain, the Rev. Buddy Wagner and Ron Lambe. Interment was at Lee Memorial Park Tupelo.

The deceased was director of the Retired Citizens Volunteer Program which is a Federally Funded Senior Citizens Volunteer Organization that is coordinated through the Oxford Park Commission. He had been appointed to this position in September 1973.

He was born on August 25, 1914 in Meridian. He was married to Miss Brookie Wilson in 1931. During his lifetime he has served as pastor of various Baptist churches and as associational missionary, chaplain and counselor.

Associational missionary work was directed by him in Prentiss, Calhoun, Montgomery, Lafayette, Marshall and

the harvest will inform you. Finally, if people really matter to us then our concern will grow into action. It is hard to hold back help when we know. The people who learn to love one person can learn to love many people. Just try sharing your love with others. Share your time and talents.

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

Concern For People

Matthew 9:36-38; Luke 13:34;

Romans 9:1-3; 10:1;

Revelation 3:14-16, 19-20

By Bill Duncan

It was a big day in Aberdeen, South Dakota, when J. C. Penney visited the local Penney store, one of the 1700 in a chain. Local dignitaries, store officials, clerks, and newsmen clustered around the entrance to greet the dedicated Christian layman who built his business on the Golden Rule. After an exchange of pleasantries, Mr. Penney happened to glance past the crowd and spotted a customer standing alone at a counter at the far end of the store. "And who," asked the master merchandiser, "is waiting on that lady back there?"

The Christian, that wants to be a witness for his Lord, is concerned for every man. The seeking, probing, searching nature of a Christian is shown in his concern for all men. Every man is a person and is important and the question is asked of the church, "and who is waiting on that lady back there?" The church is being told that people are more important than programs.

We must say that people do matter to many churches and to many of their members. Murder on our highways, air and water pollution, racial pride and discrimination, and war may be the "big sins" of today because of what they do to people. We need to see people, first, not their sin, money, color, or occupation.

Rev. Bob Maddux's Father Dies

James Tolbert Maddux, 63, died Nov. 17 at Montana Deaconess Hospital in Great Falls, Montana. Services, Nov. 19 were at First Baptist Church, Water Valley, Miss.

He was mayor of the city of Water Valley, member of First Baptist Church and taught a Young Men's Bible Class. He was a retired division manager for Conwood Corporation in Jackson.

Survivors: wife, Mrs. Annette Perkins Maddux, Water Valley; two sons, Rev. Bob Maddux, Great Falls, Mont., Dr. James T. Maddux, Missoula, Mont., two brothers, Taylor H. Maddux, and Robert F. Maddux, Batesville; one sister, Mrs. Francis Elizabeth Smith, Batesville, and six grandchildren.

A dog is smarter than some people. It wags its tail and not its tongue.

A woman never doubts what a man says in his sleep.

An old error is always more popular than a new truth.

PEOPLE MATTERED TO PAUL How can you determine if a person is concerned? Could you ask him? What did he say? Where did he go? Someone said you can tell a lot about a person from his checkbook. Do you think that Paul was concerned about people?

In Romans 9:1-4, Paul said he would be willing to make a supreme sacrifice of being permanently separated from Christ if this would insure that his brethren would turn to Christ. He really cared. In Romans 10:1 his prayer and abiding desire was that Israel, God's chosen people, could be saved.

But he was also concerned about Gentiles. He gave his life of service to the people called "heathen". These years of service separated him from family and security. But he was concerned about the Gentiles and he had to go where they were.

Who do you love? That question is not fair if you are asking a child to make a discrimination between parents. But it is fair to ask the question to Christians. Christians need to be honest with themselves. "I love you." "I love everyone." Do you? The n why have you not shared Jesus Christ with them. Is the Gospel for everyone. **DO PEOPLE MATTER TO YOU?** This is a question that you will want to answer. If you cannot say yes, then I would encourage you to spend a great deal of time in prayer. "Pray to the Lord of the harvest." This is the advice of Jesus.

Jesus recognized that Jerusalem was the religious capitol. Yet they refused God's gift in the message and the messenger. Many prophets had been slain, but God sent his only Son. This was to show them that people are very important to God.

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The next thing I would suggest is that you try to find out what it is like to be "in the other fellows shoes". Concern begins with knowledge. I must admit it is hard to be concerned about people you do not know by name or need. Pray that the Lord of

Fairview To Celebrate 100th Year

Fairview Church, Indianaola, will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on November 25, according to a spokesman for the church. This Centennial Celebration begins at 10 a.m. to be concluded with a dinner - on - the grounds at noon.

This marks the end of an era characterized in more recent years by tremendous growth in a seemingly isolated rural setting. In 1873, Rev. Ambrose Dudley Brooks founded the Fairview Church - then known as Bethel No. 3 - in a schoolhouse he built in the community on the bank of Indian Bayou. Brooks had previously aided in the founding of churches now known as First, Greenville; Hollandale; First, Indianaola, parent church of Fairview; First, Cleveland; and 22 Baptist churches into two associations in the Mississippi Delta.

Brooks cleared a canebrake to build the first building. It was twenty feet square. A storm blew away this building and the church relocated; the first permanent building was constructed in 1885. In 1917, the church added two rooms and a baptistry. In 1929, two wings were added. It has gone through major building program since then.

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Devotional

To De Telos

I Peter 3:8-12

By M. W. Hubbell, Pastor, First, Cleveland

The English language like other languages has some beautiful words. Perhaps I should clarify this statement by saying that the beauty lies not so much in the arrangement of vowels and consonants as in the meaning and connotation of the words. "I love you," "Thank you," and "Please" are among the most beautifully satisfying words in the English language.



Notwithstanding, there is another common word which ranks high in meaning for those of us who speak the King's English. It like some of the others is not a long word; in fact it has only seven letters. The word is "finally."

The pleasurable meaning of this word lies chiefly in the context. When a rather windy speaker says "finally" and means it, the sound is as refreshing as a cool lemonade on a hot Delta day. Admittedly there are those people who like

Paul say "finally" only to use it as any other transitional word. A case in point is Philipians in which he uses the word only to proceed with additional paragraphs.

In I Peter 3:8 Peter uses the phrase "to de telos" or "finally" after describing certain Christian relationships, citizens to human institutions, servants to masters, and husbands to wives. The "to de telos" introduces general responsibilities of Christians to each other. Peter says

Be like-minded. Peter is not insisting that Christians lose their identities. Instead he is pressing for a common outlook and interest in Christ.

Suffer together. The apostle is encouraging Christians to feel with and for their fellow Christians.

Have brotherly love. Through Christ, Peter knows this to be possible. True brotherhood and agape, giving love, come through a personal relationship with Christ.

Be tenderhearted. Affectionate sensitivity is apparently what Peter has in mind.

Be humble-minded. To use other words, Peter may mean that Christians are to be low-lying in heart and mind. After all, Peter remembers Jesus' examples of humility, the children.

"Finally" with these attitudes, Christians tend to bless instead of returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling. In blessing one is blessed.

"The ABC's Of Church Administration"

Pilot Conference Held At Macon

A first in Mississippi, a pilot conference "The ABC's Of Church Administration" was held in Macon, November 9-10, for the pastors in Noxubee Association. It was under the direction of Rev. Leon Emery, associate, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and Rev. Glen T. Williams, Supt. of Missions, Pike Association, an approved church administration worker.

A certificate in the basic fundamentals of church administration was awarded to the following pastors: Hugh Poole, Dale Patterson, Gus Garrett, Carl Hayes and Ivor Clark.

The format included case studies in problem solving, and candid discussions of problems in administration existing in the local churches. In light of a perfect church, dreams for improving the pastorate and the pastor were examined in depth. A

dream session entitled "The pastor I would like to be five years from now" created great interest, and a discussion on the specifics of each participant's dream brought the pastors together in a new sense of mutual understanding and common fellowship. It improved pastoral relationships, not to mention the long-range benefits derived therefrom.

Rev. Ivor Clark reports, "One of the strong points of the program which surfaced during the pilot conference was the way all persons present were helped, regardless as to how much, or how little, experience and training one had prior to the study. The fresh approach held the interest of all. In fact, it was so impressive and inspirational, the group was of one accord in their commendation of the leadership, and evaluation of the materials."



We Thank Thee

For each new morning with its light,
Father, we thank Thee,
For rest and shelter of the night,
Father, we thank Thee,
For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends,
Father, in heaven, we thank Thee.
—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Thanksgivings We Bring

Thanksgivings we bring in our songs to Thee,
For bounties of earth, for fruit of the tree,
For glorious fountains of water so pure,
For temples of worship all time to endure,
Abundant the yield of ripe fruited grain,
From forest and field, from valley and plain;
The verdant green pastures, so useful to man,
Are tokens of blessings in Thy wondrous plan.
O Jesus our Lord, Thou ruler of all,
Thou art ever true, whatever the call;
Be Thou our defender in all time of stress,
And help us live daily in true thankfulness.
—Edwin McNeely, 1891.

Yes, My Grandson

Yes, my grandson, I will tell you
About my dear, dear youth.
But if, during my narrative,
My eyes fill with water,
My throat gets a lump in it,
And I find it hard to talk,
Please excuse me for a minute
Whilst I regain my wits;
There is something about the past,
Youth in particular,
That seems to fill an old man's eyes
With the tears of many years.
—Mark Leggett

A Rose

in morning pose
Against my garden wall,
Her face AGLOW
like moonlit snow,
And dew-gleams on her brow.

All the mystery of the race,
is hidden in her grace;
All the meaning of the dawn
is written on this lawn.
Every secret of God's store,
stands fragrant at my door.
—Rosalee Mills Appleby

A Good Name

Good name in man and woman, dear my lord,
Is the immediate jewel of their souls;
Who steals my purse steals trash; 'tis something, nothing;
'Twas mine, 'tis his, and has been slave to thousands;
But he that filches from me my good name
Robs me of that which neither enriches him,
And makes me poor indeed.
—William Shakespeare, Othello (1604)

SCRAPBOOK



Where Are The Nine?

On His way to Jerusalem,
Between Samaria and Galilee,
Jesus entered a village where
Ten lepers He did see.
They stood a far way off,
Being unclean by law,
No one could go near them;
From all they did withdraw.
"Jesus, be merciful to us!"
They cried from where they stood.
To priest He bade them go
And show themselves—they should.
As they obeyed and went,
They were all cleansed and healed.
Then one of them returned,
His joy for health revealed.
Loudly he voiced his praise to God,
Fell down upon his face
At the feet of Jesus where
He'd found mercy and grace.
To Jesus he gave thanks
For blessed gift of health.
Of treasures that abound,
This was the greatest wealth!
"Where are the nine?" asked He.
"Did only one rejoice to see,
And thus return to give his thanks,
When gone was leprosy?"
All ten were cleansed and healed;
By faith one was made whole.
I think this meant his heart
To God he did enroll.

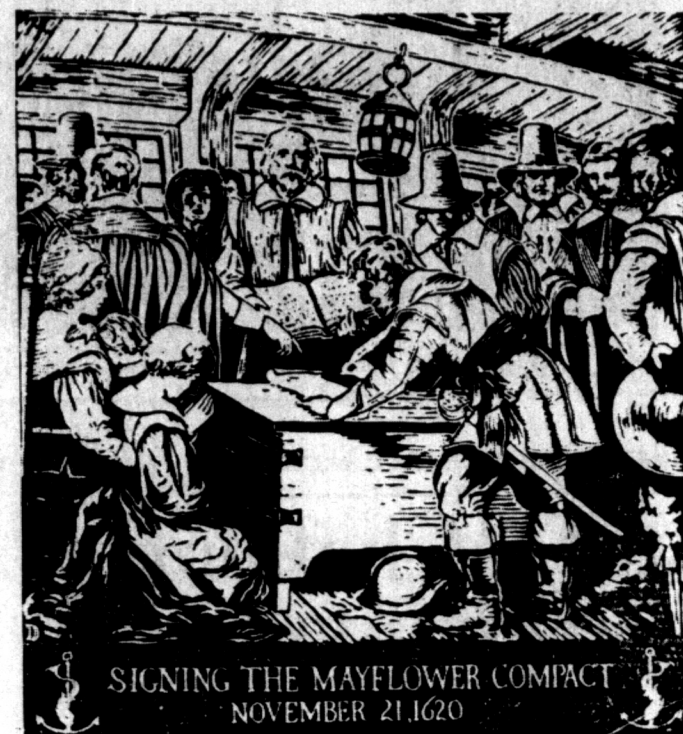
When from the leprosy of sin
We too are cleansed, made whole,
Do we at the feet of Jesus fall,
Let Him our lives control?
Are we among the nine?
Receive, then go our way,
And never thank Him for
The blessings of each day?
—Victoria Singley

The average cost of supporting a foreign missionary for one year is \$7,545.96. This includes salary, language study, school allowance, rent, travel, outfit and other items related directly to missionary expense. This amount varies according to the economy of each country.

Of all money for foreign missions, 90.53 percent is spent for work on mission fields, including support of missionaries. Administrative expenses take 7.65 percent of the funds. Only 1.82 percent is spent in cultivating support and communicating news about missions.

The Love Of A Friend

"Like music heard on still waters
Like pines when the wind passeth by,
Like pearls in the deep of the ocean,
Like stars which enameled the sky,
Like June and the odor of roses,
Like dew and the freshness of morn,
Like sunshine which kisses the clover,
Like tassels of silk on the corn,
Like notes of thrush in the woodland,
Like brooks where violets grow,
Like rainbows that arch the blue heaven,
Like clouds when the sun dipeth low,
Like dreams of Arcadian pleasure,
Like colors which gracefully blend,
Like everything breathing of pureness,
Like these is the love of a friend."
—Author Unknown

SIGNING THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT
NOVEMBER 21, 1620

The Mayflower Compact

Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower, now free to worship as their conscience dictated, sign the famed Mayflower Compact before landing in the New World. The Compact was an agreement for the temporary government of the colony by the will of the people and contained a short set of laws establishing certain concepts of religious freedom. The document later became a basis for democratic government in the colonies. (RNS Photo)

The world
speaks to us in
the tone of our
own voice.

How you spend
Christmas is
more important
than how much.

Gifts Without Season

...Lord, I would thank you for eyes to see
Miracles in our everyday earth:
The colors that crowd monotony,
The flame of the humblest flower's birth.

Lord, I would thank You for these things:
Not sunlight only, but sullen rain;
Not only laughter with lifted wings,
But the heavy muted hands of pain.

Lord, I would thank You for gifts without season:
The flash of a thought like a banner unfurled,
The splendor of faith and the sparkle of reason,
The tolerant mind in a turbulent world!
—Joseph Auslander

Verse Of The Week

The Lord is good; his mercy is
everlasting (Psalm 100:5).

Names In The News

James Melvin Keith of Jackson, a doctor of theology degree a student at Southwestern Seminary, was one of four seminarians chosen as speakers for the Fall Preaching Week at the seminary Nov. 6-9. Keith, who is married to the former Sandra Elaine Gordon, is a graduate of Mississippi College. He received the master of divinity degree from Southwestern in 1969 and is the pastor of First church, San Marcos, Tex.

Rev. Coley Alexander, R. 1, Box 48, Harrisville (Phone 845-6879) has resigned the pastorate of Ebenezer Church in Jeff Davis County, and is available for supply, interim, or pastorate. While at Ebenezer new pews were installed, and the church enjoyed general progress, and a number of professions of faith and baptisms.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby T. Hood, missionaries to Argentina, have transferred to Rosario (address: La Paz 1833, Rosario, Santa Fe, Argentina) where they will work in general evangelism with special emphasis in church music. Both are from Mississippi.

Sarah Wofford of Drew, has been chosen to represent the quality of intellectuality in the feature section of the Mountaineer, Blue Mountain college yearbook for 1973-74. Miss Wofford is President of the Senior Class. Her mother and two sisters are graduates of Blue Mountain College.

Dr. Fuller B. Saunders, pastor, First Church, Houston, taught the January Bible Study (Book of Colossians) to the pastors of the Ridgecrest in the Panhandle, Panama City, Florida.

Mary Josephine Randall, missionary to Japan, is expected to leave the field Nov. 8 for furlough (address: Box 296, Notasulga, Ala. 36866).

Mr. and Mrs. Elton P. Gray, missionary associates to Okinawa, have completed furlough and are expected to return Nov. 11 to the field (address: P. O. Box 31, Koza City, Okinawa Ken, Japan 904). She is the former Dottie Eavenson of Marks, Miss.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. McFarland Jr., missionaries to Spain, have completed furlough and are returning to the field (address: Artilleros 4, Alicante, Spain). When appointed, he was pastor of Osyka (Miss.) Church.

Burch Hill Burns Note

Burch Hill Church, Jackson had a noteburning on their building Oct. 28. The program was presided over by Johnnie Lee. Special music was furnished by The Brighter Day led by Gene Rester and the Proclamations led by Joe Joslin.

The message was brought by Rev. H. A. Milner of Van Winkle Church. The note was burned by T. H. Allison assisted by Danny Thompson. Jm Driver closed with a prayer of thanksgiving.

The church was built five years ago as Van Winkle Chapel, a mission of Van Winkle Church. It was constituted as Burch Hill Church two years ago.

Off The Record

"How do you know you were going only 15 miles an hour?" the judge asked the driver accused of speeding. "I was on my way to the dentist!"
—Pacific Northwest Co-operator

Food prices are so high that a lady said to her neighbor last week: "If you'll let me fry my eggs in your butter, I'll let you boil your ham in my cabbage."

Gasoline prices are so high! I pulled into a station and asked for a dollar's worth and the guy dabbed some behind my ears.

Mothers!
A movie script was submitted to a producer. The producer took one look at the title and gave it back to the author with a sarcastic look.
"But you didn't even read it," said the writer.

The producer condescendingly replied, "It's called The Optimist. You know what it means and I know what it means, but how many of those jerks standing in front of the theatre are going to know it's an eye doctor?"



Church—the Sunday Night Place (Church Training exhibit)

Convention Exhibits



Blue Mountain College serves birthday cake at convention booth, celebrating the college's 100th year.



The Baptist Book Store, beehive of activity



Stewardship Department serves coffee.



Evangelism Department display.